Contains Questions for Personal Use or for Use in Classrooms, Small Groups, Counseling & Support Groups

Arranged by Topic

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About the Authors

Abortion

Title: Men & Abortion

Speaker: Warren Williams

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+bd265c6

1. Warren talks about abortion as a means to deny men fatherhood. What are your thoughts about this? What are your thoughts about the man not having any input into keeping a child alive and that the decision is solely rested upon the woman?

2. Warren indicates that men have been kept out of the abortion process and thus have not been considered in terms of their experiences with the abortion. Yet, his experience and research reveals a secondary trauma effect on men who have experienced abortion. Why do you think men are rarely considered when it comes to their child when the mother wants to abort the

pregnancy?

3. Discuss the various losses that men experience when an abortion takes place. What effects do you think these losses have on his masculinity and his sense of purpose and self? How can such a man going to Christ in humility find healing?

4. Men have to define what the losses were from the abortion. Men tend to list their childhood, their fatherhood, their relationship with the woman, etc. This allows them to see that the abortion loss also increased other losses. What losses do men experience in an abortion? Why do you think some grieve these losses and some do not?

5. Warren talks about these men struggling with denial and in particular, anger. How does turning to meekness help in this process for having a thirst for righteousness?

6. Discuss Proverbs 28:17, “A man burdened with bloodshed will flee into a pit; let no one help him.” What impact does this have on our daily life and how does God’s grace speak into this? (See also Matthew 5:4: “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be

comforted.")

7. What are your thoughts about having a memorial for the aborted child? How does this help in the healing process?

8. Many men who have experienced abortion live in what Warren calls, "fugitive behavior." This is a life of fear and anxiety. 1 John 4:18 indicates that God's love replaces our fear. How does receiving God's unconditional love heal fear and anxiety? What does this say about you as a person?

9. Pray for the men who have experienced abortion and for their healing.

Adultery

Title: Healing Adultery in Marriage

Speakers: Bob and Heidi Elder

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+248dc34

1. Bob learned to separate the family dysfunction from himself thus detaching from his pain. He dealt with this through chemical addictions and sexual acting out. How does detaching from one's pain lead to unhealthy choices in life?

2. Many men think getting married and settling down will "fix" their addiction. How is this false thinking?

3. Bob talks about the two "different people that I had become." How can you relate to this inner struggle and talk about this as it relates to the battle of the two sides discussed in Romans 7.

4. The effects of a spouse's infidelity and betrayal is a great trauma and can lead the victimized spouse to anger, depression, anxiety and more. What can a victimized spouse do to work through the trauma of the adultery and betrayal? What do you think he/she needs?

5. Some sexual addicts fall back into their sexual sin. What does the sexually addicted person need to do when this happens to remain in integrity?

6. Heidi's counselor indicated that before she left the marriage that she needed to complete her healing. What wisdom is there in that counsel?

7. "Telling the truth and being known" is a phrase Bob uses to reveal what was essential to his healing and maturity. The law of love keeps hoping, forgiving, and reaching out. This is what Christ did on the cross. Discuss how the power of love can heal the broken heart and the broken marriage.

Title: Adultery from Both Sides

Speakers: Mike & Doris Courtney

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+303f730

1. As Mike told his story of serial adultery and sex addiction, what thoughts were running through your mind? What knowledge do you have of these matters either from personal experience or from helping a friend?

2. Mike believed that in order to be loved by God and others, you had to be perfect, so he learned to keep secrets, from his wife and from his congregation. What do we as believers need to learn about this timeworn trap of the enemy and how we can better prepare the body of Christ to combat it?

3. Mike discovered that neither his wife nor his thriving church could fill his deep need to be validated. Discuss some of the reasons why a person might develop such an insatiable need and how it can be fully met in Christ.

4. Mike had three extra-marital affairs while being a successful minister. If you had been his wife, what sorts of thoughts and feelings might you have had knowing, (or suspecting), what was going on? Discuss your

feelings toward God as well.

5. In the midst of serial adultery, God told Mike that He loved him. What does that tell us about the true nature of God and the nature of His love and grace?

6. What role do secrets play in your life? How are these secrets inhibiting you from an intimate relationship with God, self, and others?

7. How have you used “church” to make you feel better about yourself? Did it work? Why or why not?

8. A performance-based theology keeps us from living in freedom. How does this need to please God keep you from walking in faith, hope and trust?

9. If you have been betrayed or cheated-on by someone in the past, have you sought healing from the Lord for your damaged emotions? Have you been able to gain solace and even joy in the fact that since Christ was also horribly betrayed, you have shared in His sufferings and can thereby know Him more deeply? Ask Him to reveal more of this truth to you and thereby turn your sadness into something redemptive.

10. Mike describes his healing as both an event and a process. What did he mean by that? Can you say the same thing about your own deliverance, healing or sanctification process?

11. Doris says she felt numb during Mike's years of adultery. Can you relate in some way?

12. It was Beth Moore's book, Breaking Free that finally brought her some peace and comfort. If you've read that book, what impacted you the most about it?

13. Doris says that when the children found out about their dad's adultery, it affected their belief about God because it had been their dad who had taught them everything they knew about God. Can such damage be undone? If you had been in Doris' place, what would you have said or done to help them find their way back to God? What does God do in situations like that?

14. Years later, one of the sons asked his father to officiate at his wedding. What examples can you find in Scripture of such incredible forgiveness in the face of betrayal?

15. Describe an influential Christian in your life who failed you.

16. How did their failure affect your view of God and the Church?

17. Describe someone close to you who has felt numb because of your sexual sins?

18. What would have to change in your life to help that relationship be restored?

19. God restored Mike to ministry even after multiple failures. Discuss what you think the restoration process should be for a fallen leader.

20. Mike's restoration is an incredible demonstration of God's power, longsuffering and grace. Can you think of other restoration cases in the Bible that were similar in degree?

21. Doris stated that though she has forgiven him, she hasn't placed her trust in Mike, but in God. Discuss the power and wisdom of such a statement.

22. Some cite as evidence for a leader not being removed from their ministry after a moral failure the fact that God left King David in leadership even after his adultery and conspiracy to commit murder. What are the flaws in using that case as a precedent for ministry situations?

23. Ask your local church and denomination to send you their list of procedures for responding to and restoring fallen leaders. Since the odds are they don't have a well thought out, fixed policy, develop one for them based on biblical principles and precedents and recommend it to them for their consideration. (Those who are known for being in the forefront of restoring fallen leaders include Jack Hayford and James Robison).

24. Ask God to show you who you are putting your trust in. Instead of answering the question on your own, let God tell you. Then let Him show you wisdom, priority and balance in the matter.

Special Segment: David's Q&A

"What will Intimacy with God Achieve in my Life?"

1. David claims that the reason you were created - the

reason everyone was created - is to have an intimate relationship with God Himself. Do you agree? Have you been passionately pursuing the purpose of your life?

2. Discuss the incredible benefits of an intimate relationship with God noted by David. Have you experienced any of them? Why or why not?

3. Many people substitute religious activities for intimacy with God. Such activities generate a feeling of being acceptable to God, though they don't really believe this deep inside (thus the fear of genuine intimacy with Him). Consider the ways and degrees that this might be true of you, and if true, what changes you can make to risk loving God with all your heart.

4. Ask God to show you the ways that you can rearrange your activities and priorities so that they all serve the purpose for which you have been created - falling head over heels in love with Him, and living accordingly.

5. Consider how fixing your eyes on Jesus in worship can motivate you to holiness. Plan out a regular schedule of worshipping Him through daily singing love songs to Him.

Special Segment: David's Q&A

"What is the Mystery of Healing?"

1. The "mystery of healing" is that it is in intimacy and communion with God the Father that we find and receive everything that we need for life. Discuss David's examples of blessings that God wants to impart:

a. His masculine will

b. His purity of thought and desire

c. the fullness of His boundless love

d. the ability to trust

e. the wisdom to act rightly

f. the completion of our personhood - our healing

2. Discuss what David called the "most important factors for change":

a. the intensity of your desire to change

b. the degree of faith with which you hold on to God's promises

c. the depth of your love and commitment to Jesus Christ above all others

d. the degree of your willingness to be faithful to God's will & direction when He gives it

e. the degree that you keep the perspective that it is God at work in you that brings permanent transformation

f. the amount of time you spend seeking God in prayer and crying out to Him for help.

3. If you have never received a healthy sense of being masculine (or feminine, if female), begin regularly asking God to supernaturally impart the missing pieces into your soul and spirit. Then wait, believe, and receive. It may take a number of months or even years to be fully imparted, but rejoice with every new dimension, and persevere.

4. If you were never loved or affirmed as a child, ask God to begin speaking words of affirmation into your soul and spirit and to put others into your life who can participate in this process of completing your personhood.

5. Read the promise of the gift of wisdom in James 1:5-8, noting the conditions, and begin seeking, believing and receiving this precious gift from the Father.

6. Write out the list of the most important factors for change in Key Point for Discussion (# 2 above) and pray through it regularly, asking God to supernaturally give you those elements that are missing and to strengthen those elements that have become anemic in your life.

Title: Kay Arthur: Her Story of Sexual Sin - Part 1

Speaker: Kay Arthur

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+5b12c2e

1. Kay quotes the verse, “As a man thinketh in his heart,

so is he." Discuss this verse as it relates to your history in sexual activity and/or sin.

2. Out of Kay's frustration for not feeling loved she said, "to hell with you God," and she poured herself into a lifestyle of sexual activity that sought to find love and acceptance. How have you done this same thing and what were the effects it had on your life and self-esteem?

3. The heart and mind is the key to sexual purity according to Kay. Discuss how your heart and mind changed from the time you began engaging in sexual sin and how it changed as you sought to live a sexually pure life.

4. Kay indicates that the effects of sexual sin are not isolated – they will affect others as well. What affects do you think it will have on others? What responsibility does the sexual sinner have to those they have harmed?

5. Redemption. It carries the idea of unshackling a slave and setting them free. Discuss Christ's death on the cross, the resurrection, and our freedom from sexual sin. Have you given your life to Christ and found that freedom? If no, what keeps you?

Title: Kay Arthur: Her Story of Sexual Sin - Part 2

Speaker: Kay Arthur

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+29f3950

1. Many in sexual sin feel in bondage to their sin. Yet, Romans 5 indicates that we are set free from our sin and are made new creations. What difference would this make to someone who believes that they cannot overcome their sexual sin?

2. Kay expressed to God her anguish over not having God intervene in her life as a teen or through her early marriage. God told her that "I saved you when I wanted to save you." Discuss our hurt and pain and remorse for a history of sexual sin and God's timing in our life to set us free.

3. What do you think God intends to do with your sexual sin history and how can this bring Him glory?

4. Kay indicates that all of our sexual sin history is redeemable by God. What does this say about you and

your relationship to the Father?

5. What are your thoughts about God being angry at those who committed sexual sins against you?

6. Kay informs us that we can begin a new life when we come to Christ in faith and allow Him to heal our hurts and pains and to renew our minds. Jesus died for our sins and did so because of His unwavering love for you and I. If you are ready, will you accept Christ as Savior and begin fresh and new with Christ and Heavenly Father?

Title: Sexually Abused Missionary Kid - Part 1

Speaker: William Paul Young

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+88d7a02

1. Paul reports that his parents were missionaries yet were themselves emotionally broken. This led to a lack of bonding and attachment to them and even more to the Dani Tribe. Discuss the need to bond to our parents and how we will find a place to attach our hearts when

we do not.

2. The “house” in the book, The Shack, is a metaphor for one’s soul. The “inside house” is where we store our addictions, hurts, pains, fears, etc. What did you store in your “inside house” and how did these things manifest themselves outwardly in your life and decisions?

3. Paul talks about how our religious belief systems hinder our ability to heal (-e.g., Anger is a sin so one can not be angry). What religious belief systems were you raised with that held you back from being free, even free from your sexual sin struggles?

4. Paul states that our tendency is to minimize our pain so we don’t have to deal with it. He states that we will have to go into the “shack” and deal with what is really on the inside. This would include our religious dogmas that are not biblical and that hinder our freedom. Talk about how our fears hinder our ability to deal with what is inside our own soul.

5. Paul talks about a performance-based theology and how it leads us alone and struggling with our sexual sin. Trusting God and being open is the path to our healing.

Honesty and vulnerability with God and others is extremely important. Relationship is the key – not rules. It opens up our lives. Discuss the nature of secrets and how God knows our secrets and our need to be authentic to God and others about our brokenness and struggles.

6. Abba Father tells us that He will never leave us nor forsake us. Why do you think it is important to embrace this truth as it relates to our healing?

Title: Pastor Commits Adultery - Part 2

Speaker: William Paul Young

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+999efe9

1. A performance-based theology leads people to make rededications many times. It leads to bondage and can enslave one to a life of isolation and secrets. Paul states that the Trinity comes to live inside your soul (the metaphor of the shack) to set you free. Talk about your understanding of the Trinity and how that understanding either helped you or did not help you find freedom from sexual sin and brokenness.

2. Paul states that God does not do anything that is not motivated by love. How can knowing this truth make a difference in your healing?

3. Our shame keeps us from dealing with our secrets and our pain and hurts. But sometimes the anger and hurt of those we have harmed can spur us on to getting healed. Shame destroys our ability to distinguish between a value statement and an observation according to William. Talk about how your shame has kept you in bondage and stuck in your sexual sin.

4. Those damaged by our sexual sins find it difficult to trust again and to believe in what they are told. What does the sexual sinner need to do to regain trust and confidence?

5. In 2 Corinthians 7:10 Paul the Apostle states that godly sorrow precedes repentance, which leads to salvation and regret and that worldly sorrow leads to death. It is godly sorrow that leads to healing. Talk about these two types of sorrow and their differences.

6. Secrets keep us from being ourselves according to William Paul Young. Discuss this statement and how

faith in Christ leads us TO ourselves, rather than running FROM ourselves, and how being our authentic self is where freedom reigns.

Title: Broken Hearts

Speaker: Ruth Graham

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a60c75d

1. Ruth talks about the influence her husband's pornography use had on their life and marriage. She indicates that it has "diminishing returns" – the idea that one will need more and more pornography in order to get a desired result. Discuss the role of pornography in marriage - its effects on love and the emotional and sexual relationship.

2. Ruth states that we are not "stuck in our sins." How does feeling stuck in our sins affect our thinking and choices in life?

3. Discuss the difference between "feeling" stuck and "being" stuck?

4. Ruth states that our wounded hearts and hiding it from others prevents us from growing and maturing in our walk with the Father and prevents our ability to worship purely. What keeps us from revealing our true selves to another and how does this relate to feeling "stuck?"

5. Ruth shares that the strong can admit their weaknesses and that weak people do not. Talk about this in light of the biblical teaching that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

6. Ruth admonishes us to turn to God's Word to find healing, hope, and encouragement. What passages of Scripture have been helpful to you in your journey?

AIDS

Title: Ministering to AIDS Victims

Speaker: Bruce Sonnenberg

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+69c45a7

1. Bruce talked about being tired of hearing about AIDS. What were your thoughts as you first began to hear about HIV and AIDS? What was your attitude? Where is your attitude today? What made the difference?

2. Write your thoughts and feelings about contracting HIV/AIDS and being a Christian?

3. Bruce states that their goal is to offer hope and encouragement to those with HIV/AIDS. Why is hope and encouragement such an important part of the journey of living with this disease?

4. Abstain. Be faithful. Condoms. These are the ABCs of

the program in Uganda. What are your thoughts about the idea of condom use and the Christian faith?

5. Bruce talked about the devastation of the myths surrounding the prevention and healing of HIV/AIDS. Though we may not have the same kinds of myths that he discussed as being espoused in Africa, myths still exist today. What misunderstandings of HIV/AIDS have kept Christians from reaching out and ministering to those affected with the disease?

6. Bruce states that dying is a part of the process of life here on earth, but that knowing Christ as Savior is the answer to the death dilemma we all face. What is your spiritual condition? Have you prepared for your death through life in Christ?

Title: Married with AIDS

Speaker: Dan Davis

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+526271a

1. Dan talks about the role of his abuse and the

consequential confusion it created within himself as a man. What are your thoughts about the role of abuse and gender confusion?

2. Dan's experience of pain, hurt and deep shame upon hearing the diagnosis led him to suicidal desires. He literally cried out to God to "take me". What do you think is the answer to our deepest regrets and shame other than suicide?

3. Dan's testimony reveals that one's sinful choices may not just affect the one sinning, but those they love as well. What are your thoughts about the idea that what we do affects others?

4. Dan found unconditional love from the ministry operated by Bruce Sonnenberg and his wife (He Intends Victory) . How have Christ's unconditional love, grace, and acceptance brought healing to your life?

5. It is clear from Dan's testimony that healing must be lived out in community. It was Christ's power and the support of others in the Body of Christ that helped bring about transformation. What are your thoughts about a healthy, strong relationship with Christ and others being

essential for healing?

Title: Living with AIDS

Speaker: Dean Greer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+43ce3bb

1. Dean shares the lack of emotional nurturing and relational vacuum in his life and home as a pastor's kid. Discuss how the lack of emotional attachment leads to homosexual confusion and in particular, the lack of attachment to a father.

2. When Dean's father decided to give up his church, Dean saw in that decision the love his earthly father had for him. This also helped him understand the heavenly Father's love for him. How does love spoken to a heart feeling unloved and full of shame start the journey of healing? What message does love speak to one's heart?

3. Joe Dallas indicated that idolatry is something that you find more pleasure in rather than God. Discuss the role of sexual sin as an idol. Additionally, discuss how

sexual sin is a greater source of pleasure than intimacy with God. What needs to take place to replace false intimacy with true intimacy (which comes through an intimate relationship with God)?

4. Abandoning sexual sin must include letting others know of your decision in order for you to maintain sexual integrity. What would keep us from letting others know of our decision to abandon sexual sin and walk in holiness?

5. Living with AIDS is not the "end of the world." Sin has consequences. However, the goodness of Abba Father is that we can live beyond the consequences. In Christ we are "free from (our) slavery to sin, and (we) have become slaves to righteous living" (Romans 6:18). What hope does this give you that you are not a slave to your sexual sin and are free to live an abundant life in Christ (John 10:10)?

Title: Living Waters

Speaker: Dean Greer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/

media/mi/+a2a81b3

1. What are the unique doubts and fears that can arise from being a pastor's kid with same-sex attractions?

2. The demands of pastoral work in the life of his father left Dean feeling lonely and unaffirmed. How might this have also led to his performance orientation?

3. How did Dean's need for approval from other males make him vulnerable to their cruel manipulations and judgments? How might it have led to a root of rejection?

4. How can anxiety over a father's disapproval lead to secrecy, fear, self-loathing, addiction and/or the belief that you are not a real man? What is biblical manhood anyway?

5. Dean says that he became angry and defiant toward his parents. In the face of such insolence, how important was their reaction to his disclosure of being homosexual?

6. Dean says that God used the loving reaction of his earthly father to the disclosure of his homosexuality to restore his faith in the Father's love for him. Discuss how

this works in this and other circumstances.

7. Dean says that the support groups he attended weren't helpful because they focused on themselves and their problems rather than God. Discuss the positive and negative dynamics of support groups and the circumstances under which they could be used by God to be a healthy framework for healing.

8. Discuss the fact that God sometimes uses tragedies, (such as AIDS), to rescue a person from eternal death.

9. What does it mean in your life to take up your cross daily and follow Christ?

Title: Near-Death & AIDS

Speaker: Jonathan Hunter

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+57b59f1

1. Jonathan discussed a broken childhood where he believed he didn't matter - that he felt detached and

unloved. Jonathan said that he always sensed he was an "other." How does the feeling of not belonging open one to a life of sexual sin and brokenness?

2. Jonathan came to a place where he told Christ he was "willing to be made willing" to follow Him and to walk in holiness. What wisdom is there in being willing to be made willing?

3. Some Christians find it problematic to take medication, as they want God to simply heal them. Yet, Jonathan found out that it was okay to take medication. Pain is a part of life. How has God used pain, both physical and emotional, to help shape your life and decisions for Him?

4. Jonathan says that the questions people tend to ask when in pain are: "Where are you Lord? What are you doing? What are you showing me, and will you redeem this? Why do you think this is and what has the Lord shown you in your own recovery and healing?

5. Jonathan suggests that one reason for the challenges of life is to help us learn to live in intimacy and dependency upon Him and others. Discuss this thought

and its relevance to your life's journey.

6. Healing requires a sense that we are not alone in the journey. God tells us that He will never leave us nor forsake us. How does the knowledge that we are never to be left or abandoned by God inspire us to move forward in our healing?

Title: The Birth of an AIDS Ministry

Speaker: Penny Dugan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+f8582bd

1. What major themes have you noticed in Penny's story?

2. What role do you think addiction played in the life of Penny's husband? If you struggle with an addiction, what purpose does it serve you?

3. Penny found her life purpose in her life story. She recognized that she had to be able to comfort and care

for the sinner while not condoning the sinful behavior. How do you deal with the tension between comforting sinners and not tolerating sinful behaviors?

4. God used mission work to bring healing to Penny and her children. They were able to forgive their father and find peace and freedom. Discuss the role of forgiveness in healing one's pain.

5. God used Penny's story to shape her purpose in life. She learned the Church was fearful of AIDS victims and homosexuals but needs to learn comfort and acceptance. Christ comforts anyone and accepts everyone. We must be an expression of His love. What can we learn from her story and how we in the Church need to respond?

Childhood Sexual Abuse - Female

Title: Healing from Sexual Abuse

Speaker: Diane Langberg

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8697d13

1. Dr. Langberg indicates that a family system can be indicative of whether or not sexual abuse is taking place. She described different family types. What were some of the dysfunctional rules and patterns in your family and how do you think these patterns influenced your adult life?

2. The personal testimony reveals that sexual abuse leads to the child believing lies about themselves and their value. What role do these lies have in self-abusive behaviors and patterns? How does Scripture help in dealing with such lies?

3. Dr. Langberg believes strongly that the Body of Christ is His love, truth and grace in the flesh. This points us to the power of healing relationships as restorative to our brokenness. Discuss the role of relationships in your healing? What traits in those relationships do you find most helpful in your healing journey?

4. Sy Rogers shares the influence of Abba Father as a loving Father that is crucial to healing our wounds. This is different than just being "saved." Discuss the difference between conversion to faith in Christ and walking in intimacy with the Father. Where do you see yourself in this journey from salvation to intimacy with the Father?

5. Facing the truth and grieving the impact of the losses are important as a part of the forgiveness process according to Dr. Langberg. Christ entered into the victimization of human beings, as do sexual abuse victims. Thus, Christ can identify with being victimized by humans yet was able to forgive His offenders. Discuss this parallel and its importance to our healing and growth spiritually, emotionally and relationally.

Title: Child Sexual Abuse

Speakers: John and Paula Sandford

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+d869111

1. Trusting God after being sexually abused is difficult and victims tend to wonder why God allowed the abuse, etc. The Sandford's indicate that it was Satan and not God that did this to you, (as well as man's free will), which also means people freely choose to harm others. Yet, John and Paula call us to walk with victims of abuse and to allow Christ to reveal to the victim the truth of what took place. Discuss the need to lovingly bear one's burden while healing and how this will help them come to Christ in truth and grace.

2. The Sandford's indicate that people are free to think and feel the way they do and don't need judgment or criticism. This allows them to be open and accepting of Christ's love. The victim may not be able to hear your words but they do need the healing balm of acceptance and love that will open them to receive input from Scripture, etc. How is this true for you in your healing journey?

3. John and Paula talk about the demonic aspect of the healing journey and that sometimes going after a demon might be a wrong decision early on. The person might not be ready and might need trust and love first. Discuss the merits of this thinking.

4. As children we are meant to attach to our parents but in the case of abuse our desire and need to bond is replaced with a certain fear of them. Thus attachment is not possible. How does an intimate relationship with Christ become our primary healing relationship?

5. David Foster quotes many scriptures about the inner man and our need for peace in that inner part of our self. How does Scripture help bring peace to our inner man? How can the church help in this process?

Title: Trauma of Child Sexual Abuse

Speaker: Kathy Koch

Video URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gj0X1TRu65k

1. Security: Who can I trust? Identity: Who am I?

Belonging: Who wants me? These three core needs must be addressed during childhood. A person who has not completed answering these in their childhood will struggle to develop into a mature adult. How did you do in these areas? How has the lack of or meeting of these needs impacted your life?

2. How did you meet those core needs?

3. A search for validation must be pursued in life. It provides a sense of being valued. How can the Church provide this as well as Scripture?

4. Kathy talks about the names of God that would benefit a person at their point of need, -i.e. Provider, Shepherd, Sovereign, etc. How can a God having these different names provide healing and hope for the sexual abuse victim? What names helped you in your healing journey?

5. Seeing the goodness in the little daily things is our evidence that God loves us and that we matter. What little things around you each day is evidence of His presence in your life and that He loves you?

Title: Sexually Abused as a Child

Speaker: Jan Frank

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+ee3b9cb

1. Jan told her mother about the abuse and her mother did nothing. What does this say about her mother? What message do you think Jan picked up from her mother?

2. Jan talks about becoming focused on performing well as a result of her abuse. She did this because she interpreted, from the abuse, that she was a "bad" person. What passages from Scripture can we use to speak against this lie abuse victims tell themselves?

3. Jan goes into the different effects of the abuse on her life as an adult, -i.e., depression, headaches, anger, and a critical spirit. What effects have negatively affected others in your life and what are the effects on them?

4. Jan uses the experience of her tooth surgery as a metaphor for the healing of the emotional wounds from sexual abuse. She stated that the process took about five

years. Discuss our desire to work through pain quickly rather than taking the longer journey to complete healing. Why is healing “too quickly” not a real healing at all?

5. Her husband Don didn’t demand Jan’s healing or his “rights” as a husband. He responded to her in love. Discuss how the need for loving relationships with God and others is indispensible for our healing. (Jan called them “reparative relationships”).

Title: Rescued from Sex Abuse

Speaker: Mae Collins

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b55b165

1. Incest is more common than we tend to think. What effects does sexual abuse by a parent have on a child? What effect do you think it has on their view of God?

2. Mae talks about feeling shameful and dirty, yet loved her abusive father. Why do you think this happens? Mae shares that God told her that He loves her in the same

way that she loves her father. Discuss this parallel.

3. Mae confused love with being abused. Why do you think victims have this confusion?

4. Trust is a major obstacle for victims of sexual abuse. How does a loving relationship with Christ and the Church help in healing and restoring trust?

Title: Story of the Lost Daughter

Speaker: Fionah Lopez

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+486aad2

1. Many women in strip clubs are victims of sexual abuse. What connection do you think sexual abuse and assault has on their choice to dance as a stripper?

2. Fionah indicates that she was abused sexually as a child and that this abuse led her to make decisions that created more harm to her soul. What choices have you made from childhood pain that you regret? How have

those decisions affected your life today?

3. Fionah cried out to God early but “felt alone”. How does the feeling of aloneness lead to making choices to live in sin rather than to follow Christ?

4. The strong desire for attention leads some women to dance as strippers. Discuss the need for attention in your life and the choices you have made to get it. What keeps people from reaching out to Christ to get this need met?

5. The founder of XXX Church (Craig Gross) indicated that “we are not going to take down the industry”. Instead, the primary purpose of these ministries is to reach the girls for Christ. Discuss the wisdom of this path. Where does discipleship come in?

6. Fionah states that her anger towards God turned to love through surrender. Discuss how surrendering to God and His love leads us to give up our anger and to be released into His love.

7. Those in the sex industry are sometimes considered unsaveable and unsalvageable by the Church. Why do you think this is and what does this attitude

communicate to those in the sex industry?

8. Fionah talked about how when she was ministering to other women she was ministering to herself. How can this be and why is this so helpful for healing?

9. Fionah talks about her ability to survive and cope from her trauma through dissociation and fragmentation. What does this say about the human ability to overcome injustices and our need to turn to Christ for His path toward healing and wholeness?

10. God the Father created us to be something of value. What keeps us from accepting this truth? Why is it necessary to have the Church come alongside during our journey into Christ's love and healing?

11. This video makes it clear that God loves us for who we are, and accepts us where we are and as we are. Yet, He calls us into His love and healing by loving us unconditionally. Discuss why unconditional love is necessary for healing and wholeness.

Title: Sexually Abused Girl Finds Her Voice

Speaker: Angela Williams

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3baeee3

1. Angela's stepfather gained control over her very early in life through physical and emotional abuse. This eventually led her to being sexually abused. She quickly realized that her mother was not willing to rescue her. What effects do you think it has on a child when their own mother will not protect them? What do you think it does to their sense of self?

2. Angela created an imaginary world in order to survive. Did you create an imaginary world to survive abuse? How did it help and how did it hurt?

3. In looking for someone to love her, Angela had hoped that she could find her biological father. When she found him she was disappointed and felt more lonely and abandoned than ever before. That led to thoughts of suicide. How has your father wound affected you emotionally and spiritually?

4. The theme of being "alone" is dominant with abuse

survivors. Many medicate this pain with alcohol, drugs and sex. What paths did you take to medicate your pain and how did you find a way out?

5. Early in her marriage Angela would push her husband's buttons in order to test his love and commitment. How do you test others love and commitment to you?

6. God's Word tells us that He will never leave us nor forsake us. How does this message of dedication, devotion, and commitment help us heal from our shame, guilt, and fear of abandonment?

7. Talk about the difficulty and process of forgiving such horrific crimes against children.

Title: How to Rise Above Abuse

Speaker: June Hunt

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+45eab52

1. June talks about her life as a child - fixating on TV to shut out the sexual abuse while it was taking place. What did you do to survive through the abuse?

2. June points out that a child's brain is not able to think abstractly and to reason about what is taking place to them. Thus they tend to not speak out about the abuse. How does this childlike thinking play itself out in one's adult life? How does it keep them in bondage to the pain and negative patterns that are the consequences of abuse?

3. June recommends that we make peace with our past because only Christ offers hope for the future. How has Christ helped you find hope for your life and relationships?

4. Some abuse victims tend to blame God for allowing their abuse. Yet, people have the ability to refuse God's will. Thankfully, God will give us calm FROM the storm or calm IN the storm. Discuss the differences in this calming and how it helps our life and our ability to trust in Him.

5. June continually helps the viewer make a distinction

between what happened THEN and what is happening NOW. She indicates that with Christ, we have the power to make a difference - to live a loving, healthy life in the present as we seek to let go of the past. How does forgiving play into this journey?

Title: Redeeming Child Abuse

Speaker: Jenna Quinn

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b86dc1f

1. Jenna's parents desired to keep her safe by putting her in a Christian school, not knowing that her perpetrator was involved at that same school. Discuss the need to be vigilant of perpetrators even within Christian organizations.

2. Verbal grooming is identified as giving gifts, giving money, "smooth talking" and making the child feel special. How do you think verbal grooming affects the child long-term?

3. Child sexual abuse damages the victim's family as

well. What are some of the effects that it has on the unsuspecting parents? What goes through the victim's mind in regard to sharing their abuse with their parents?

4. Jenna talks about her need to stay quiet in order to protect existing relationships in her family. How does her need to protect her family relate to guilt and shame in keeping the secret?

5. Jenna says that her personality started to change after age 16. She started wearing dark clothes, turned inward, feared relationships, and became depressed. How did your personality or the personalities of victims you know change? What effect did this have on their relationships, personal life, and faith in Christ?

6. Jenna's parents tried to speak against the false beliefs that she had towards herself. Discuss the relationship between child sexual abuse and things like shame, fear and self-hatred.

7. What fears does a child sex abuse victim have when wanting to come forward about their abuse?

8. Discuss how a family's faith in Christ plays a central

part in healing and overcoming.

9. Scripture tells us to bring every thought captive to the obedience of Jesus. Jenna reveals how her openness and vulnerability to herself and to God gives her strength to overcome intrusive thoughts. What keeps people from becoming vulnerable and open about their fears, shame, and intrusive thoughts? How does our relationship with Jesus and His Word impart strength, hope, healing, and a sense of a rich and abundant future?

Title: Redeeming Sexual Abuse – Part 1

Speaker: Tracey Bickle

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1eec70f

1. Tracey comes from a chaotic and abusive alcoholic family that proved traumatic for her as a young child. How does a dysfunctional family make children more susceptible to child sexual abuse?

2. Tracey talks about how she used dissociation to survive. She created an alternate world in her mind to

survive and to feel loved. How does this kind of escape help survivors of abuse? How might it harm them?

3. Dissociation is the brain's ability to deal with deeply painful trauma so that one can survive and function. All humans dissociate to some degree, which operates on a continuum - from daydreaming to what used to be called Multiple Personality Disorder. Discuss how and why God gives us the ability to dissociate and how this relates to His love for us, and the understanding of our hurts and pains.

4. Tracey compares the pain of her sexual abuse with the pain of being neglected and rejected by her parents. Discuss how the absence of love and acceptance (neglect) is damaging to the soul.

5. Tracey admits that her ability to love and be loved is key to her healing. How does God's love prove crucial for such thing? Discuss the need for the love of others as well.

6. Tracey confesses that when she was able to admit that her mother loved her in the only way she knew how, a door for God's love opened that brought healing to the

deepest hurts of her soul. How does this confession and realization lead to healing?

7. Her understanding that Jesus loves her regardless of what she does or does not do was a great impetus for the beginning of her healing journey. How does our desire to be loved unconditionally lead to our healing? What will keep us from accepting the truth of God's unconditional love?

8. Tracey talks about how serving and loving others led to living her dream, even though she was still not fully healed. How has this been a part of your life and what finally helped you to accept the truth of your hurts and pains? How did this awareness and admission set your heart free to love God, others, and yourself?

Title: Redeeming Sexual Abuse – Part 2

Speaker: Tracey Bickle

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+5a2124c

1. Tracey talks about the nature of her childhood neglect

and the damage it caused. She refers to “all that hinders love” and how God had to help her deal with those hindrances. What hindrances in your life have stalled your ability to love and be loved?

2. The hindrances that prevent our ability to love and be loved cause us to make wrong decisions in order to deal with the pain of rejection and a sense that we have no value. What choices did you make and how did those choices affect your life?

3. A famous song refers to looking for love in all the wrong places. What were the outcomes of these wrong places in your life, your relationships, and your understanding of God’s love for you?

4. One result of pain, hurt and rejection is displaced anger, which stems from a root of bitterness deep in the soul. What was it like for you to get in touch with your resentments and bitterness? What keeps some of us from acknowledging this root of bitterness? What are the benefits of giving your bitterness to Jesus?

5. God asked Cain why he was angry. Tracey points out that this is a question God asks of us to motivate us to

pursue greater awareness and insights about ourselves? How does fear and shame keep us from that inward gaze? What benefits would be present if we answered the questions God asks of us?

6. Self-awareness is fundamental to emotional health. Next is self-management. One cannot have self-control if one is not self-aware. Discuss the challenges and benefits of becoming self-aware.

7. Tracey reveals that self-awareness led to understanding her hurts, fears, and anger. She saw the root of bitterness in her own heart. Facing these truths allowed her to fully experience God's love. What are the freedoms that await us when we reach this point in our lives?

8. Tracey's newfound freedom allowed her to love others maturely. It allowed her to no longer take responsibility for things that were not her fault. This led to her healing. Based on these two episodes, what do you glean from Tracey's journey of healing and how can you apply that to your own life and relationship with God and others?

Title: God's Healing Embrace for Sexual Abuse

Speaker: Sandra Wilson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+33fbbd4

1. Sandra talks about her mother and her life without a loving and caring father. How does the absence of a father affect our self-worth and our ability to connect to God as Abba Father?

2. Sandra says that many Christian churches think that if someone is "saved" they should not have emotional issues. How has that been a part of your life? What effect did it have on your life relationally and spiritually?

3. Grace is essential to healing. What would life be like if the Church actually gave grace to victims of abuse? How would the healing of abuse be easier? What difference would it make for that church in regard to how they live out their faith?

4. Dr. Wilson makes it clear that if we would be self-aware to our own hurts and moved to compassion for

the hurts of others, it would make an enormous difference. How do you think that would work in your own ability to love and be loved by God and others?

5. The core of our identity is that we are the “beloved of Abba.” What happens to us in the past can be core history, but it is not our core identity. Discuss the differences in these two ideas and why they must be kept distinct.

6. In regards to “hands on abuse” vs “hands off abuse” sexual abuse is hands on. Sandra regards “hands off abuse” as neglect, rejection, abandonment, and the idea that I have no value or worth. How does “hands off abuse” make healing from “hands on abuse” more challenging?

7. How have the various forms of “hands off abuse” affected your life and your ability to love God, others and yourself?

8. Practicing the presence of God is essential for developing intimacy with God as Abba Father. What would you need to do differently to allow yourself to live fully in the present, attuned to His unconditional love for

you?

Childhood Sexual Abuse - Male

Title: Matriarchal Sex Abuse

Speaker: Kent Paris

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4255a33

1. Kent talks about his disconnection from his father and the alienation he felt from both parents and other children. Discuss how alienation and disconnection can lead to the development of sexual sin issues.

2. Kent talks about his years of sexual abuse by men and how his mother helped shape his homosexual confusion. Kent says it was age 15 that he concluded that he was gay. How does labeling ourselves shape our identity and future? Discuss the merits and/or costs of labeling ourselves by our sins?

3. In 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, the Apostle Paul states that we “were” those sins, that we are not them now if we are in Christ. How does a new label of son and daughter to Abba Father help in our transformation process?

4. Kent talks about the role of fear in his life and in particular in his marriage. He and his wife prayed and gave their fears to God and invited God to teach them His love and desire for marital sexual intimacy. Talk about the role of fear in holding ourselves back from healing and how faith and love are the remedy for faith. (See 1 John 4:17-18).

5. Kent’s prayer was that God would use the brokenness of his life to help and enrich other lives towards Christ and healing. Why would this desire come from a life of healing? Discuss the idea that when we are healed we are called to “strengthen our brethren.” (See Luke 22).

Title: Sexually Abused Boy Finds His Voice

Speaker: Tom Scales

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b1dd9da

1. Tom shares the sexual abuse by leaders in the church. What effect(s) do you think being molested by church leaders has on one's emotional and spiritual development?

2. Tom relates that his fear of his father was worse than his fear of telling about the sexual abuse by the priests. What role does fear play in telling the secret of being sexually abused and what do you think the fear is about?

3. Tom talks about the multiple sexual abuses and how this led him to feel numb. What do you think this numbness is about and how do you think one must overcome it?

4. Sexual abuse led Tom to wonder if he was gay, led to deep shame and guilt and fear of men in charge over him. These were private thoughts and fears he kept to himself. However, it was in a support group where he started sharing his thoughts and feelings that he began healing. What role do you think sharing openly and vulnerably has on dealing with our fears and hurts?

5. It was when Tom started freeing himself from his guilt and shame that he could begin to see God the Father as

loving and caring. How do you think our guilt and shame keeps us from reaching out to God for healing?

6. Courage. That was the first step for Tom to find healing. How do we find courage to begin healing and how can faith help in this journey to find courage?

Title: From Homosexuality to Holiness

Speaker: Stephen Black

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+71927b9

1. Stephen was molested at the age of six by a male babysitter. His offender claimed that he was doing it because he loved Stephen. How might such a statement introduce significant confusion in a boy his age?

2. Stephen says that after being abused, a great distortion entered his mind concerning his sexual identity. He wondered why the male babysitter had been attracted to him? Was it because his perpetrator saw something in him that told him that Stephen was homosexual?

3. At ten, Stephen was molested again - this time by a neighbor who told him that he wanted the abuse to happen. Discuss the guilt and shame that accompanies such a lie.

4. As a teenager, lust burned within Stephen and he concluded that he was born gay. Talk about the lies that we believe in response to trauma. Talk about the need to replace those lies with God's truth. Have you ever gone through such a "truth cleansing"?

5. Stephen was obsessed with finding his "lost" masculinity. Why do you think that became an obsession with him? How does a lack of positive male affirmation and/or sexual abuse play into such a search?

6. Stephen's younger brother died, leaving Stephen traumatized and facing questions about eternity. He wanted to know if his brother was in heaven or hell. This elicited a search for truth. What experience(s) have you had that set you on a search for the meaning of life?

7. God spoke to Stephen saying, "If you don't accept Me, you're going to die!" In spite of the drama of the moment, Stephen saw God's warning as a "tender

mercy". Have you ever had an encounter with God that sobered you up so quickly?

8. Psalm 107:20 says, "God sent His Word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction". In what ways does this scripture apply to Stephen? How does it apply to you and your areas of brokenness?

9. Stephen claims the grace of God gives us the ability to say "No" to sin? He cites Titus 2:12 as proof: "The grace of God teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness….and to live….godly lives in this present age." Has this been your experience? Why or why not?

10. Immoral thoughts assaulted Stephen on a regular basis even after his salvation, deliverance and much of his healing. How/Why does that happen with someone so intent on walking in holiness? Where does the "weapons of our warfare" come in? (See Ephesians 6)

11. In receiving a chaste hug from his pastor, God opened a door to the inner healing of his sexual abuse and confused male identity. What are some other ways that God supernaturally imparts healing truth? Tell us your story in this regard.

Title: Healing Sexual Brokenness – Part 1

Speaker: Russell Willingham

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+faf9c02

1. Russell mentions that "getting set free from feeling worthless" was the greatest battle for him. What is the fundamental problem in such a battle and how is it overcome?

2. Russell's mother was unable to express tenderness or kindness, which he perceived as rejection, which led to a shame-based identity. What is a shame-based identity? Know anyone like that? What is their story?

3. Russell lived in a fantasy world where he was the admired and capable secret agent or other hero. Many kids do that, so what made Russell's escape into fantasy different?

4. Russell's grandmother was his only source of love and nurture. How important was that for his survival? What could have happened if he'd not had anyone to give him

such vital comfort?

5. At the age of nine, Russell tried to reach out to God but found the Bible too confusing. What are the internal thoughts and beliefs about God that can arise from such a failed attempt? Why wouldn't God make Himself clearly known in a situation like that?

6. Self-hatred developed in response to the perceived rejection from his family and misinterpretations of the actions of others. How big a problem is self-hatred and how would you help someone who suffered from it?

7. Russell's family members forced him to suppress any expression of his inner feelings or emotions. Is this not a recipe for creating a fear of intimacy? If such a fear develops in a child, what are some of the possible outcomes later in life?

8. Russell was even shamed for being depressed by his mother. What effect did that have on his actions in general? What effect did the overall behavior of his mother have on his view of women and how to interact with them?

9. How was tenderness, kindness, and affection expressed in your childhood?

10. If applicable, how did the lack of these crucial elements of intimacy lead to your sexual struggles?

11. If applicable, what role did the lack of these play in your sense of low self-esteem and/or self-hatred?

12. What messages did your family send regarding the expression of emotions?

13. Like Russell, when someone is starved for nurture, they will often experience a profound sense of loneliness. What should his family environment have looked like? What heals the loneliness that results from a lack of affirmation, love and nurture?

14. Russell's parents presented a hypocritical picture to him: they were promiscuous yet shamed him for any semblance of sexual behavior or need. What sort of problems does hypocrisy and sexual shaming in the home (and in the church) create?

15. Pornography projected an illusion of intimacy, for

which Russell was starving. “It tasted like nourishment to me” he said. Discuss this dynamic and the part it plays in sexual bondage and addiction.

16. “Satan always attacks by questioning our identity”. What did Russell mean by that statement?

17. Russell mentioned a number of sins that contributed to his growing bondage to sexual sin, including involvement in the occult and a root of rebellion. How does the evil one parlay such sins into a stronghold?

18. The deep psychic pain of feeling abandoned came to a head when his mother threw the hot potatoes at him, causing Russell to beg God to kill him. Can you imagine feeling deep, emotional pain like that? In Russell’s case, it drove him to Jesus. Share stories of being in a similar place of nowhere to go but Jesus.

19. His childhood family experiences created ambivalent feelings in Russell toward women - fearing their sexual power over him yet craving what they could give him. How can such love-hate, fear-need collisions be resolved?

20. Russell says that through finding and experiencing God's love in Christ, his internalized sense of shame has been slowly worn down. Explain the dynamic behind that and share your experiences of finding healing through God's love.

21. God stated in Genesis 2 that it was not good for man to be alone. Adam was not alone. He was with God. Have you ever felt alone? Describe an experience of when you felt alone?

22. What did these feelings of aloneness motivate you to do?

23. Satan tries to separate us into aloneness. In that place, we are most vulnerable to temptation and sin. How has the enemy achieved this in your life in the past?

24. Knowing his schemes, plan out what you will do differently the next time you feel alone?

25. Russell said that being tempted to lust is an ongoing struggle for him. If he has found so much healing, why is it that temptation remains? Doesn't that negate his claim

to be healed?

26. One of the ways that God has shown His love to Russell has been to fulfill some of the tiniest wishes of his heart. Have you experienced the same thing? How has that made you feel? How has that brought healing?

27. Discuss Russell's statement: "The Bible alone doesn't change you. The Spirit has to quicken it to your heart."

28. How do you use "enlivened Scriptures" to fortify you in battle?

29. Do you have an ongoing struggle with lust? Why or why not?

30. How does having this ongoing struggle affect your sense of self?

31. What "tiniest wishes" do you desire for God to fulfill?

32. Pray and ask God to reveal His love to you in small ways and to make you aware of the small things that He

does for you.

Special Segment: David's Q&A

"Perfectionism"

1. Perfectionists often unconsciously assume that God examines their lives for measurable results before deciding whether to love or accept them. Is this how God operates? Have you tended to think in these ways? If so, what has been the result?

2. David said that God's focus is on the person's heart, and the intent of their heart, rather than on their performance or accomplishments. Where is that idea found in the Bible? How do I adjust my life to accommodate this revelation?

3. If the sanctification process in this life is a matter of dying to self, as David suggests, what does that mean and how is that done?

4. Discuss this statement: "Holiness if the fruit of allowing Christ's life to be expressed in and through us."

5. Discuss this statement: “Holiness is the fruit of loving God.”

6. Are both statements true? If so, how can they both be true at the same time?

7. Discuss the relationship between humility and intimacy.

8. How does a performance-oriented and perfectionistic-oriented system of thinking prevent humility?

9. In your opinion, what would be the evidence of someone who walked in holiness?

10. What role does intimacy play in a holy lifestyle?

Title: Healing Sexual Brokenness – Part 2

Speaker: Russell Willingham

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3501244

1. Russell noted that there are some similarities between people who struggle with homosexual confusion and those who struggle with sexual addiction (-e.g., loneliness). Discuss the similarities mentioned by Russell as well as others that you have noticed.

2. The level of emotional bonding with the same-sex parent is a key difference between the two populations. Why would that be a key difference? What might some other differences be?

3. Both pedophilia (sexual attraction to pre-teen children) and ephebophilia (adult male sexual attraction to teen boys) share numerous common causal factors with homosexuality. What are some of those?

4. Russell notes that pedophiles seem to have a deeper level of brokenness than the average homosexual. Many never had a childhood because of sexual abuse. As a result, in a subconscious search to recapture lost innocence, they are often attracted to children who are the same age as they were when they were abused. Discuss.

5. Russell notes that pedophiles and ephebophiles are

cases of arrested emotional development. They feel emotionally identified with the younger kids that they like to hang around. How can this observation alone enable churches to better guard against child molesters in the children and youth ministries?

6. Pedophiles and ephebophiles often experience an overwhelming level of temptation. Could that signal an added level of demonic power at work? If so, what might be some of the causes, and how should they be addressed?

7. Healing for the pedophile and ephebophile, interestingly enough, comes through developing intimacy with God. “Outside of that”, Russell says, “everything will come rushing back”.

8. According to Russell, the difference between a pedophile (attracted to pre-teen children) and an ephebophile (attracted to male teens) is that the ephebophile (aka “pederast”) is a homosexual who is looking for his lost adolescence rather than his lost childhood. His own abuse came in the teen years, which fixes his obsession on teenagers. Discuss the elements in child abuse that might create such disorders. Why might

some abuse victims go on to develop these obsessions while the majority don't?

9. One trait of these people is a "cannibal compulsion" whereby they, like cannibals, try to ingest the admirable traits of their victims, only through sexual interaction rather than through cannibalism. Where instead should they be seeking the missing pieces of their lives?

10. Describe the emotional connection that you shared with your parent of the same gender.

11. What was beneficial about this relationship and what was lacking?

12. Russell talked about those whose emotional development was arrested or stopped. (This phenomenon is also found in sex addicts). Do you relate to this in any way? If so, how?

13. How old do you feel emotionally? Do you internally identify with people who are more than a few years younger than your chronological age? If so, why might this be? Get help from a Christian counselor skilled in helping you grow spiritually AND emotionally.

14. Because of the trauma of their abuse, some victims never develop a “sense of being” and/or “well-being”, which may help fuel some of their dysfunctional behaviors. Discuss any understanding you may have of this phenomenon.

15. Although an intimate relationship with God is the core of the answer to dysfunctional behavior, many people haven’t a clue what that is or how to achieve it. What would you suggest they do?

16. Russell notes that intimacy with God is not the same as intensity with God or passion. What does he mean by that?

17. According to Russell, intimacy with God grows out of many years of interaction, which includes “dark nights of the soul” and other kinds of wilderness periods. Describe your experience of intimacy with God and the path it has taken.

18. Russell says that intimacy with God breaks the bondage of fear because we discover that God is a safe refuge. Has that been your experience as well? Why or why not?

19. Intimacy with God also breaks the belief that intimate relationships always bring pain, which is a core belief in those who avoid intimate relationships. How can this one point of revelation and deliverance alone radically change someone's life?

20. Russell describes his healing as a matter of Jesus loving him out of his despair. Describe that process.

21. Discuss Russell's answer to the question: "Why did God allow you to be abused?" Does it satisfy you? If not, what would you consider to be a more complete answer?

22. Scriptures inform us we are to love others as ourselves. Therefore, a healthy sense of self-love is crucial for healthy emotional and spiritual development in Christlikeness. Describe your sense of self and/or sense of well-being.

23. Addicts and others who struggle with sexual issues confuse intimacy with intensity. How has intensity been like intimacy in your life's journey?

24. Fear is a powerful motivator of mostly unhealthy choices. How does fear play a role in your life and

decisions?

25. Behind all insecurities is the emotion of fear. 1 John 4:17-18 tells us that perfect love displaces fear. How has fear affected your ability to be intimate with God and others?

26. Russell points out that in order for people to believe in God's love, they need to hear it directly from Him, receive it into their spirit, and see it demonstrated. How are these goals realized?

27. According to Russell, there is only one completely safe relationship - the one offered us by Jesus. If true, what are the dynamics of that statement? What has been your experience of either avoiding or entering into that relationship with Christ?

28. As we enter into the promised "renewing of our mind" through the washing of the Word and other means, we are enabled to change our beliefs, which then slowly changes our emotions. Describe some of the details of this renewal (-i.e., changing) of mind, beliefs and emotions in your own life.

29. Russell's final recommendation is that in the midst of this renewal of the mind, sexually bound and broken people become persuaded, enabled and empowered to obey God and to be accountable to others in the body of Christ. How important is repentance, obedience and accountability in realizing the promised freedom in Christ?

30. In your life's journey, describe how you have seen God's love demonstrated poorly. How did this affect your ability to trust God at a deeper level?

31. Russell points out that the safest relationship we can experience is with Christ. Sometimes we find unhealthy relationships to be safe ones. Have you ever experienced this? If so, why do you think that is?

32. Beliefs change our emotions. What beliefs do you need to develop in order to allow yourself to live a more intimate relationship with God, self and others?

33. What do you believe about accountability? What role can fear play in living a life of accountability?

Special Segment: Sy Roger's "My Thoughts About

That"

"Being Authentic"

1. Discuss Sy's statement: "Lack of authenticity is a problem in many caregivers".

2. Discuss Sy's statement: "Tell people what worked for you. Applied truth is more powerful and creates authority".

3. Discuss Sy's statement: "Support groups are good places to practice authenticity".

4. Why are we afraid of being authentic, and what can we do about the problem?

5. How have you lacked authenticity in your life and relationships?

6. What was the effect of this lack of authenticity on yourself and others?

7. Fear inhibits vulnerability and authenticity. Fear of

what?

8. What is the remedy for fear in your opinion? Compare your answer to 1 John 4:17-18.

Title: Male Child Sex Abuse

Speaker: Mark Sandford

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1003dc8

1. Mark indicates that when we enter into sexual sin the "powers of darkness" join in and the result is that we do things that are demonically encouraged and influenced. In this case, Mark was molested. Discuss the role of the demonic in sexual sin. How do you feel about this idea that demonic activity could be a part of your sexual struggles? Explain why you feel this way.

2. Mark says that abused children see life through the prism of the abuse and how they interpret the abuse - that these thoughts and beliefs affect our choices, how we see the world and what happens around us. Through what prism do you see the world - a prism of fear,

unloving, not good enough, etc.? How does your prism keep you in bondage to your sexual sin and brokenness?

3. Mark indicates our pain “exaggerates” the negative parts of those who love and care for us so that we cannot accept their loving parts. Instead, we focus on their negative parts. How has this pattern played itself out in your life? What positive things do you get from being this way? What is the cost?

4. Joe Dallas refers to our sexual sin as a “deep friendship.” How does this metaphor reflect the truth of what he is saying? Discuss why letting go of our “deep friendship” is hard and challenging. What would we need to do to replace the loss of the old “friendship?”

5. Our desire to abandon sin comes from God. Talk about the need for turning to Christ for our desire to turn from sin and to heal. What keeps you from doing so and what would be the benefit(s) if you did turn to Christ? Remember, Jesus calls us friends.

Title: People Who Molest Minors

Speaker: Mary Heathman

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+17c4d10

1. Mary says that hurt people "sexualize their emotional needs." What are your thoughts about this? How has this been true for you? What effects did this have on your spiritual and relational life?

2. Research reveals that children thrive when raised in the context of a healthy, loving, two-parent family. Sadly, this is not the normal kind of family in America today. How did the way you were raised contribute to your sexual struggles?

3. Ephebophilia is not the same as pedophilia. Ephebophilia is the desire of an adult male for a teen male. Discuss the difference between this and pedophilia (the desire for a prepubescent child).

4. Mary indicates that when children are raised in a loving home where truth is taught, they usually become whole. It starts the process of "growing up." Discuss what life would be like for you if these two were not imparted.

5. Mary claims that if a person believes they are emotionally loved, that leads to a sense of being a separate individual (individuation), which allows for healthy socialization in relationships. Discuss the relationship between these when they are not fulfilled in that order.

6. Sex offenders attach their sexual feelings to their emotional needs. Discuss how this connection affects the offender, others, and society.

7. Mary states that pedophiles think that children want sex with adults because the offender links sex and love together. Thus to love the child is to have sex with the child. How does this skewed thinking lead to great harm for others and society? How does it lead to a sense of entitlement?

8. Mary relates that sex offenders have deep seated emotional problems but also recognizes that the “enemy is prowling about” to destroy. This argues for prayer for healing for the offender as well as a commitment to honesty and openness. In addition, it calls for accountability to others. How does the church and society play into this need for accountability?

Title: When a Man You Love Was Abused

Speaker: Cecil Murphey

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+96e14eb

1. Cecil reports that he was physically and sexually abused as a child. His father was one of the offenders. He stated that he would not let his father see him cry. How might a decision to stuff one's emotions lead to a broken soul long term?

2. At age 51, Cecil was suicidal and reports that he had very few memories of his childhood. How does repression of memories and pain lead to depression and suicidal thoughts?

3. Discuss the negative effects on later relationships and personal development that are caused by stuffing painful childhood memories?

4. "Who am I?" is the question Cecil asked of himself in his 50s. How do the repression of abuse and the denial of it keep us from truly knowing ourselves? What is the

outcome of not knowing ourselves? How does a relationship with Jesus lead us to such knowing?

5. Cecil did not have a desire for same-sex attraction but he had a fear of it. Yet he also had a fear of females. How does this conflict feed into sexual struggles like addictions, pornography, etc.?

6. Cecil talks about how his abuse led to a lack of trust for most everyone, even his wife? What has hurt and pain in your life taught you about trust? How does this lack of trust affect your relationship with God?

7. Cecil discusses the need to forgive his abusers, and how that led to him having compassion for his offenders. Discuss the link between true forgiveness and compassion for one's offenders? HINT: It sounds like this; "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

8. Cecil reveals that healing comes best when we receive unconditional love and acceptance from others and God. How will this make a difference for you in your healing journey?

Sex Trafficking – Male & Female

Title: Rescuing Child Sex Slaves – Part 1

Speaker: Linda Smith

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+6084d75

1. What are some of the countries named in the video as centers for human trafficking? Have you ever visited any of them and seen anything as horrendous as that?

2. How young are the girls and boys who are trafficked as sex slaves?

3. What kind of men pay to have sex with children in these countries?

4. What is the first thing the workers at Shared Hope International and other rescue agencies say to these

young sex slaves once they have been rescued from the streets?

5. What affect does calling them “child of God” have on these young girls and boys?

6. How important is it to provide a safe home, education, spiritual guidance, work training, and jobs for these young people?

7. Discuss the nature and importance of having a long-term restoration program.

8. What feelings/thoughts did you experience as you watched this segment?

9. How do you think pornography contributes to the issue of human trafficking and the use of sex slaves?

10. What feelings/thoughts do you have as you contemplate that there might be a connection?

11. Imagine the kind of journey a man or woman must take from childhood to become a human trafficker. What

are some of the likely formative elements? What part might family curses and the demonic play?

12. How has the sexual revolution of the 1960s led to human trafficking today?

13. The countries that devalue females are the main centers of human trafficking. What is the connection?

14. What is the process of preparing a girl or boy to be a sex slave prostitute?

15. What does the Bible say about this kind of victimization?

16. When labeled a prostitute, the girl devalues herself in her own mind. How might this keep her in bondage even after she has been physically freed?

17. Is prostitution a matter of “bad women tempting men”?

18. Linda Smith suggests that restoration comes from learning to give. How does that work?

19. How has the current culture contributed to your sexual values and ideas?

20. In what ways does America devalue women?

21. Ask God to show you inner beliefs that you hold about yourself that are not only untrue, but that keep you locked in one bondage or another. Make a decision to renounce and reject those beliefs every time they try to take control once again.

22. Reflect on your progress in learning to be a giver rather than a taker. Ask God to transform you into His image in this area.

23. How does Shared Hope International's outreach to trafficked boys differ from the one for girls? Why?

24. Is the answer that the trafficked boys need for their victimization and brokenness the same as the answer for the girls?

25. How many children are trafficked into sex slavery today worldwide?

26. What are some of the ways that they are caught in the web of traffickers?

27. According to Anthea, how is “cutting” or “self-mutilation” sometimes connected to their plight?

28. Have you ever heard or read a news story about the human trafficking that goes on in the United States? Have you ever met someone who has suffered such a fate?

29. What is the primary U.S. law that covers the crime of human trafficking and how far reaching is it?

30. What should we do if we discover that someone is being trafficked?

31. Ask God to begin giving you strategies for helping people who have been made to feel worthless. Seek Him for opportunities to try out those strategies.

32. Begin a regular practice of praying for the children and teenagers who are being trafficked as sex slaves around the world. Pray for them, one country at a time. Start with the more notorious locales such as Thailand,

Cambodia, India, Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Moldova, Netherlands, Indonesia, Dominican Republic & South Africa.

33. Approach your pastor with the idea of hosting an informational evening on the subject at your church. Invite speakers from Shared Hope International, The International Justice Mission or other organizations.

Title: Reaching Predator Porn Users – Part 2

Speaker: Linda Smith

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1f92d9c

1. What happens in the brain when people view pornography and how does it help create an ongoing bondage?

2. Linda Smith claims that Holland drives its economy with the sex industry. Discuss what you know about the economics of the sex trade industry both locally and internationally. When someone purchases pornography or other product of the sex industry, what else are they

funding?

3. Discuss the ramifications to you, your family and the culture of the following Internet statistics cited by Linda from a recent study done during a single 40-day period:

• 2.2 million English-speaking escort (prostitution) sites

• 5.5 million users per month on one site alone

• 72 million (minimum) visits to a sex industry site in 1 month

• 1 out of 3 males in the U.S. are visiting porn sites every month

• 1 out of every 5 porn images on the Internet is of a child

• 32 million Americans visit a porn site every month

4. How has watching pornography created a bondage in you?

5. Discuss your thoughts about the brain's experience when watching pornography and how you can identify with this experience?

6. If you have chemically imprinted your brain with pornographic images, based on your greater love for Christ and your hatred for idols, commit to a lifelong process of re-wiring and re-imprinting the brain by opposing every attempted return of every illicit image with the power that Christ now offers you.

7. Research the porn-blocking software companies and purchase one that will adequately prevent anyone with access to your computer(s) from using it to purchase or view pornography.

8. Are men and boys (and increasingly women and girls) in your church using pornography according to Linda Smith's research? What is your church doing about it?

9. What are the ways in which porn use is damaging their bodies, souls and spirits?

10. What is "The Defenders" (https://sharedhope.org/takeaction/become-a-defender/) and what do they do?

11. What systems are being developed by law enforcement to trap pornographers and sexual predators?

12. “Men are just like that! Boys will be boys!” Discuss common beliefs such as these.

13. Meet with your pastor and/or church leadership to examine the area of “equipping the saints to do the ministry of the church” in ministry to sexually bound and broken people. Push for regular teaching events, support groups and/or ministries to become a part of the fabric of your church’s healing and restoration ministry.

14. Volunteer to give your testimony (if you have one) about God’s healing and deliverance in this area. Express your willingness to be a part of any outreach to sexually bound and broken people.

15. Make the hiddenness of sexual sin a matter of prayer, so that those in your congregation or sphere of influence will be set free from the fear of seeking freedom and healing.

16. Where can someone go who needs help for a

bondage to pornography?

17. Why have men abdicated their role as protector of women and children?

18. How do pornographers and pedophiles recruit children these days?

19. What protective measures have you established in your home and church to reduce the chances of your loved ones falling victim to this modern scourge?

20. Research the various ministries (especially local ones) that offer Bible-based help for those trapped in pornography and sex addiction. Give that list to your pastor, church counselor and various home fellowship and/or ministry team leaders.

21. If it will not be a stumbling block to you, research the local presence of porn stores, strip clubs, massage parlors, gay bars & bath houses, etc. and begin praying for God to save those involved, destroy the demonic strongholds that empower them, and cause the businesses to wither and die. Write letters to your civic leaders asking them to shut down such establishments.

Special Segment: Sy Roger's "My Thoughts About That"

"Sex Addiction"

1. According to Sy Rogers, what behavioral patterns typify the life of a sex addict? Are there others?

2. By the use of the word addiction, do we mean to suggest that the addict bears no responsibility or culpability for their actions? What is a more biblical word or concept for addiction?

3. How does "accountability" with godly friends help keep someone from falling back into the sinful patterns of the past?

4. How can chemical imprinting in the brain from the use of pornography be reversed or reduced in its power to elicit negative behavior? Give both behavioral and biblical remedies.

5. Discuss the tightrope one walks when living a godly life between humility and pride, self-righteousness and permanent dependence on God? What are the biblical

solutions?

6. What are your thoughts/feelings about the use of the word addiction?

7. How do you hold yourself accountable?

8. With God's help, examine your heart to see if victory over sin has become an occasion for ungodly pride and self-righteousness. If it has, repent and receive the forgiveness of God.

9. How has pride kept you in a stronghold of addiction and what biblical principles will assist you in the process of recovery?

Title: Rescuing Kids - Part 3

Speaker: Clayton Golliher

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+908653c

1. The desire for affection is a biologically based desire.

When our parents are unable to provide affection, we will seek to get the unmet need met. Sadly we resort to unhealthy behaviors to try and satisfy the pain of the unmet need. How did you get your need for affection met as a child? If it was not met, what did you do to satisfy the desire for affection?

2. Chris indicates that only God can transform us from who we are. Discuss this idea and how it would make a difference in our choices if we embraced its truth.

3. Michelle leads a ministry to those involved in prostitution and strippers. She indicates that their purpose is to build a relationship with these men and women. Why is building a relationship with these individuals so important in the journey of leading someone to Christ?

4. Having a ministry that is continually “on the ground” on a weekly basis lets these men and women know that “we’re not going to leave them nor forsake them” according to Michelle. Why is this so very important in this ministry rather than a ministry that only comes every once in a while?

5. Jesus says you don't take over the strong man's house until the strong man is bound. Prayer is the manner that Clayton uses to bind the strong man. What personal benefits would prayer bring to those in the ministry? How do you think they should pray to bind the strong man?

6. This ministry does not just reach out to the prostitutes, but also to the pimps. Why is this a good idea or a bad idea?

Title: Confessions of a Prostitute

Speaker: Annie Loebert

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+25281cd

1. What about Annie's testimony made an impression on you? In what ways can you relate to such a story?

2. Annie talks about how the rigid family structure in which she was raised affected her understanding of God: she saw Father God as angry and Jesus as nice. How did your family relationships affect your understanding of

Father God? How did you get your love needs met in your family?

3. Annie talked about how the big money of prostitution was addictive, as it made her feel important? What did you do to feel important and powerful? How did those things become a bondage for you over time?

4. Annie states that the biggest person to overcome in the prostitution business is one's self. She clearly articulated the breakdown process and how it leads to drugs and other things to numb one's pain. How does shame fit into this process? How does shame and fear grow over time? How does God's Word and unconditional love speak against our shame and fears?

5. In the midst of her pain and sin Jesus reached out and revealed His love and compassion for Annie. Discuss this in light of John 3:16.

Title: Sex Trafficking in America

Speaker: Stacia Freeman

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/

media/mi/+135af11

1. How did you feel upon learning about the amount of sex trafficking that takes place in America? What does this say about our nation?

2. Stacia states that in recovery, these girls learn to separate their sense of self from their sex acts. Why is this important? What does this say about their need for value and worth?

3. Stacia states that traffickers seek to obtain the girls trust in order to take advantage and control them. Thus, they use other trafficked women as recruiters. This shows that the traffickers are calculating and intelligent. What does this say about those that exploit girls or women?

4. Dr. Foster informs us that though those with sexual sins can be healed, wisdom dictates that boundaries be put in place, as we all have a "besetting sin." Why is it important and prudent for a person to know their boundaries?

5. Discuss the wisdom in not just helping trafficked girls

find Christ but also in providing them with emotional and physical support, as well as education and life skills development.

Title: Trafficked Girls and Boys

Speaker: Patricia King

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a0243b0

1. Christians typically inform those trapped in sexual sin and prostitution they that are going to hell if they don't change their ways. Patricia indicates that these girls already feel a deep sense of having no value. How does this form of witnessing affect these girls and their sense of value? What would be a better way to reach them with the Gospel?

2. Patricia's ministry reaches out to these girls by providing them a wonderful banquet meal as well as other gifts in order to show that they have value. Discuss how a lack of value and meaning keeps people trapped in bondage and sin?

3. How does the cross prove our value and worth to God?

4. Demonic activity and dissociation create spiritual and emotional confusion. Isaiah 61 reveals that the Spirit binds up the broken hearted. Discuss the role of God's grace in bringing healing to victims.

5. Victims might find the idea of coming to Christ a fearful one. Why might this be and how can we as Christ followers deal with their fears and replace them with Abba's love.

6. Rescuing trafficked victims is dangerous work, yet God is their protector. Pray now for their protection and strength and commit to pray for these ministries on a regular basis.

Title: Sex Trafficking Victims of Nepal & India

Speaker: Shanta Sapkota

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a37f425

1. Shanta says that poverty and the lack of education makes people susceptible to human trafficking. Why do you think education is important to one's health and to one being less of a target?

2. The victim discussed the role of fear, coercion, and chemical restraints (drugs) to force these victims to "work." What emotions and or feelings arose in you as you listened to her story?

3. Shanta reveals that girls with little hope are not able to learn. Discuss why this is and how rest and safety are essential to building trust and hope.

4. Shanta reveals that she lives her faith out in front of survivors by reading the Bible, worshiping Christ, but not through overt evangelism. Discuss the merits and efficacy of such "lifestyle" evangelism.

5. Shanta's ministry teaches sex-trafficking victims skills, a vocation, and for those that desire it, education. What benefit do you think this will have on the future of these girls spiritual, emotional and mental health?

6. Christ's heart is to rescue the orphaned and the

abused. Why is it important for the Body of Christ to reach out to victimized individuals? Why is their salvation important to their healing?

Title: Trafficking Children in Cambodia

Speaker: Don Brewster

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+252502f

1. Don indicates that some organizations that rescue children have had to stop because of the lack of after-care centers. Don and his ministry began to reach out to these children by providing the "after-rescue" ministry necessary for their healing. What are your thoughts about the need for ministries to collaborate together in order to help others? Give examples of how this could happen between ministries. How can you collaborate?

2. Don indicates that rescued children have enormous needs. One is therapy. Yet he indicates that greater transformation comes when they experience God's love and the worth that He places on them. Why do you think this is so transformative?

3. Life skills, academics and vocational training are all a part of the healing and growth process. This would indicate that simply coming to faith in Christ alone is only a part of the equation for healing. Why do you think these other things are so important?

4. Don points out that these children believe they are "trash" which then leads to feelings of worthlessness and shame. Yet, if they can begin to believe that they are valuable and loved, this will change them. Why do you think that changing their beliefs about who they are helps them?

5. Don reveals that many trafficked girls feel more loved by their "pimp" than in a Christian residential center for healing. He linked this to the need for family? How would a pimp give a greater sense of "family" than a Christian treatment center?

6. Don refers to helping trafficked children as a "human rights" issue. What are your thoughts about Christians being involved in human rights issues? Why is it important for Christians to get involved? What would a lack of involvement suggest to the world about our faith, love, and mercy?

Title: Girls in the Sex Trade - Part 1

Speaker: Courtney Dow

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+ea23365

1. Discuss the connection between sexual abuse and sexual sin.

2. Courtney states that the perpetrator's lies are meant to destroy the victim's sense of worth and value. When they believe they have no value, most will commit to prostitution and other sexual sins. What lies have you believed that lowered your sense of value and worth?

3. Poverty, lack of education and childhood sexual abuse are some of the leading factors that lead to a life of prostitution. In what ways can the church be sensitive to the needs of their own families and reach out to make a difference?

4. In the video, the woman revealed that when she was in a Christian foster home the misguided parents punished her by forcing Bible reading, forcefully holding

her down to “anoint” her with oil, and placing her in a bathtub filled with ice. Discuss these methods in light of Scriptural teaching on discipline and love.

5. The woman in the video indicated that she came to the point that she became apathetic and indifferent about life and about herself. She set herself on a path of destruction. God was not a part of her thinking. How can the truth of John 3:16 be used to guide someone on this path?

6. The video reveals that “control” was important and is important to someone in prostitution. Why do you think control is important and how does this help them survive?

7. “There is no place too dark for the Lord to be.” Courtney does ministry to these women in the strip clubs, on the streets, etc. Why is it important to conduct this ministry in these places?

8. Inner healing prayer and counsel are important to the total healing of these women. This is the work of the Spirit in the healing of pain, shame, negative thinking, and experiencing intimacy with Abba. Discuss the role of

inner healing and one's growth and maturity in a person's faith and relationship with Father.

9. Courtney indicates that the church tends to stereotype and judge women in the sex trade. She found out for herself that these women are loving and passionate people, just deeply broken and wounded. In what ways do you stereotype others in sexual sin?

10. God used the ministry of Nightlight Atlanta to reach out to the woman in the video in love and support. Think about these women's choices in light of the woman caught in adultery in John 8 and in Jesus' refusal to "cast a stone." In what ways does love, acceptance and truth facilitate healing?

Title: Girls in the Sex Trade - Part 2

Speaker: Courtney Dow

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+edb87c0

1. The ministry of Nightlight Atlanta goes into strip clubs to reach the women. What are your thoughts about this

and the advantages/disadvantages of such a ministry?

2. NightLife Atlanta humanizes the women they reach out to. What difference does treating a person as human and with love and grace make in one's life and one's decisions for life?

3. Libby talks about the need to have a consistent presence in the lives of survivors so that they can begin to trust, open up, and share their stories. Why do you think this is so important to healing and to faith development?

4. Healing has "many layers" to it. What are your thoughts about the fact that God's healing is typically a process and not a one-time event? What benefit has healing "as a process" had in your life?

5. Prayer Walking is a core aspect of the Nightlight Atlanta ministry. Discuss the role of prayer as a crucial part of success in ministry and how prayer walking can make a difference.

6. Ministries such as NightLife Atlanta focus on sexual exploitation through prevention, restoration,

intervention, and education. Why do you think it is important to reach young girls (ages 10 and up) early as a part of prevention?

7. The ministry accepts these women and their children as they are and teaches them through love and grace. What do you think those in this ministry must overcome within themselves to minister in this setting?

8. Christ died for all. He asked his Father to forgive us on the cross. Discuss God's forgiveness in light of a life lived in sexual sin and how it leads us to healing and restoration.

Title: Ministering to Male Prostitutes

Speakers: Emmaus Ministries (Jonathan Hancock and Sill Davis)

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+5d9312a

1. Emmaus indicates that the majority of male prostitutes are heterosexual but do this as a way to survive. What are your thoughts about this?

2. Emmaus indicates that most male prostitutes are "over-evangelized". Consequently, those in ministry must earn the right to be heard, which involves building a relationship with them first. Discuss the need for relationship building before evangelizing.

3. The vast majority of male prostitutes were molested and abused. Many are homeless and enter into sexual sin to survive. Yet, despite this volatile mix, deep inside, many of these men are looking for love, acceptance and compassion. What precautions should someone take while working in this type of ministry that are compatible with communicating love and compassion?

4. Minister Sill indicates that these men struggle with "soul ties." In what ways do soul ties hinder one's growth as well as one's emotional and spiritual healing?

5. Hearing about a Heavenly Father is difficult for these men, as they've had no healthy male examples. How can the life and love of Jesus be a good role model of manhood and male love? He is our "Abba Father". How can this help re-parent them?

Title: Rehabilitating Trafficked Girls

Speaker: Mary Frances Bowley

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+d77cafb

1. Women trafficked early in life and sexually abused find it more difficult to engage the rational mind, as the emotional part of their brain has been damaged through the trauma. They need healing of the "emotional brain" as well. What are your thoughts about this?

2. Education is important to healing. Why do you think that completing an educational program is important to healing and recovery?

3. Mary indicates that many of the women that come to their center come from jail. What effect does being ordered into a recovery program have on one's motivation to heal?

4. What role does being in a group setting for recovery play in encouraging and/or discouraging recovery?

5. A core belief of the Center is that the girls must believe they have worth and value. Why is this

important and how can we help others find their value and worth?

Title: Sheltering Sex Trafficking Victims

Speaker: Ralph Bukiewicz

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+07fa06d

1. Ralph discusses the role of the Salvation Army in bringing healing to those victimized by sex traffickers. Why is it important to have a specific place for the victims to go to for healing?

2. Ralph repeatedly uses the term “rescue” in speaking of victims of sex trafficking. Why do you think they use this term and what difference do you think it makes in reaching out to victims?

3. Peter Horrobin discusses the role of sexual abuse and the ability to express one’s sexuality in a healthy way. What are some of the ways that sexual abuse manifests itself? Do you think sexual abuse will make a person more susceptible to sex trafficking? Why or why not?

4. The Psalmist states that the Lord places the “lonely in families”. The Salvation Army’s rescue ministry creates a family environment for the victims. What difference do you think being a part of a family makes in healing and in one’s ability to become intimate with Abba Father?

Title: Street Grace for Trafficked Girls

Speaker: Amy Walters

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+cad3bed

1. Discuss the idea of local churches networking together in unity but also with social service organizations to help the victims. Is this a good idea?

2. Trafficked girls and boys come from broken homes and affluent homes. The majority are runaways according to Amy. How do pimps prey on a child’s vulnerabilities?

3. Sexual abuse by family members and close family friends is often the seed that makes the child vulnerable to being sex trafficked. How does this play itself out?

4. How does someone identify a young girl or boy who is being sex trafficked?

5. What are the ministries in your area that help people who are sex trafficked?

Title: Rescuing the Most Broken

Speaker: Heidi Baker

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+6085179

1. Heidi talks about seeing Abba Father in a vision and His call on her life. How has God called you and what has He called you into? If you know, what keeps you from walking in that call?

2. Heidi says, “We need Holy Spirit to set us free.” Discuss this as a group and ways that Holy Spirit sets people free. How do we know when the Holy Spirit is speaking to us?

3. Heidi talks about the orphan mindset or broken spirit.

How does an orphan spirit keep us in brokenness and bondage to sinful patterns?

4. Heidi states that when we see “the smile of the Father on me” people find healing and freedom. Discuss this and reasons this is true.

5. Heidi calls us to open our eyes to see the broken people that are all around us. As Heidi states, “Jesus stops for the broken”. What keeps us from seeing these people and from reaching out to them? What difference would it make in our own lives if we did take that time?

Title: Ex-Stripper Finds Jesus

Speaker: Harmony Dust

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3bf1abf

1. Harmony experienced many years of sexual abuse by both men and women. She learned that her value as a person was “intertwined” with sex. How do you think this perception of one’s self leads to a life of sexual sin?

2. Harmony talks about the deep hurt and pain from abuse and abandonment in her life. Discuss how your hurts and pains in childhood led to life decisions that you regret. Discuss how feeling trapped or stuck was a factor in the decisions that you made.

3. Harmony's self-esteem and self-worth were extremely low. Many sexual abuse survivors have no sense of self or who they are. How does this reflect on your life and life decisions? Why is Christ's death on the cross so important in developing a sense of self and worth?

4. Fear of abandonment: a common theme for Harmony in her life. What role does abandonment play in people's decisions to live a life of sexual sin?

5. Harmony talks about looking for a sense of value and worth. Why is it important that we speak value and worth into people's lives? What difference does feeling valued and worthy make in a person's life and choices? How does Christ make one valuable?

6. Harmony talks about how love and acceptance from a female Christian friend was instrumental in her coming out of the sex industry and into the arms of Christ. Talk

about the role that love and acceptance plays in the healing process.

7. Harmony's friend Tanya accepted her unconditionally. She never rejected Harmony or judged her. Why is this so important in reaching someone for Christ? What impact did this friendship have on Harmony's sense of value and worth?

8. Sexual abuse leaves so much shame in its victims. How does God's love heal our shame and provide us with the sense of value and worth that can only be found in Christ?

9. What role did drug use or other forms of self-medication play in your life? Can that knowledge help you to better deal with your sexual brokenness and wounded heart?

10. It was crucial to Harmony's salvation that it was in Church that she learned about God's love, her value to Him, and who she is as His child. As "withered branches disconnected from the vine" we need to reconnect to Christ. This led Christ to help her break the strongholds in her life in a manner that enabled her to find freedom.

What strongholds do you need to be freed from? Discuss how Harmony's release from her strongholds and the order in which they were broken led to the awareness of her value to God.

11. Talk about the role of shame in Harmony's story and how Christ's love is the answer for our shame.

Title: Every Stripper is a Treasure

Speaker: Harmony Dust

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3373581

1. Harmony indicates that her identity was intertwined with her sexuality. How does this linkage lead to unhealthy sexual behaviors and choices?

2. Harmony confesses that her choice to stay in an abusive relationship was better than being alone. Bad love is better than no love. How have you chosen bad love in order to believe that someone loves you?

3. Her leaving the sex industry came after realizing that God loved her unconditionally and would take care of her. She trusted God and walked out of that life. How does trusting God, especially when you learned not to trust anyone, become the first step of healing? What fears keep us from trusting?

4. Harmony shares that many strippers are used to being judged and criticized by the church. How does this lack of love keep them in their world of abuse?

5. Harmony reveals that many strippers were emotionally and/or sexually abused as children, especially those who have been told they are nothing more than a “Jezebel”. Talk about how our words lead to life and death over another’s spirit.

6. “Just be quiet and listen to her” - these were God’s words to Harmony on how to reach someone else. How is quietness and listening a better approach than trying to “win” a convert to Jesus?

7. Harmony indicates that God loves these ladies where they are, in whatever state of being they exist. They do not have to change themselves - indeed, they cannot.

They only have to come and trust Him to love them. How does the unconditional love and acceptance of God draw people to Christ and then, to His Father?

8. What have you learned from listening to the testimonies of the ladies in this episode - about their ministry, the girls themselves, and the Father's love?

Title: Starting a Sex Trafficking Shelter

Speaker: Jenny Williamson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1772493

1. Jenny talks about how her heart hurts for victims and likened that to God's heart for victims. This pain led her to research the subject and eventually obey God's call to start a ministry to victims. How does care and compassion lead to making a difference?

2. What can we learn from Jenny about God putting a desire on your heart and trusting Him to bring that desire into being?

3. Vulnerable children; money to be spent; men looking for sex: these three will insure that sex trafficking will continue to exist. What makes these children vulnerable? What would be the antidote to these vulnerabilities?

4. What can we learn about God's faithfulness in meeting our needs to serve the hurting and underprivileged?

5. A part of God's vision was for Jenny's ministry to be state licensed. What does this do to expand God's outreach through this ministry? What are the potential drawbacks?

Title: Nefarious Global Sex Trafficking

Speaker: Benjamin Nolot

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9c5995c

1. Benjamin talks about his early childhood experience of seeing a rape take place in a movie and how this deeply disturbed him. Many people in ministries today are in those areas because of experiences in their childhood. How have your childhood experiences shaped

your ministry choices as an adult?

2. Benjamin shares that when the media depicts women as objects, it leads to a society that objectifies them. Discuss the sexualization of women and how that leads to violence and the desensitization of women in society.

3. Sex trafficked victims are brutalized until they surrender their will and begin depending on the abuser for survival. This has been labeled “Stockholm Syndrome”. Some of these women go on to become traffickers. Discuss the role of abuse on one’s psyche and how fear keeps people from becoming the person that God sees inside.

4. What should the church’s response be to trafficked victims? How is grace and mercy essential to their healing?

5. Trafficked victims learn to not trust. Yet we want them to come to faith in Christ and trust Him. How is patience and kindness essential to working with such victims?

6. It is common for victims to question God: “Why me?”

This is normal. However, some victims share testimonies of a “man in white” who comforts them and brings hope. Discuss the idea that God Himself is involved in reaching trafficked victims.

Title: God’s Love for the Prostitute

Speaker: Louisa Shope

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+27a871f

1. Louisa shares a terrible story of rejection, emotional and mental abuse, abandonment, and manipulation. This treatment caused self-hatred to grow in her heart. On top of that, she began to believe that she must be unlovable since her adopted parents did not love her. How does a message that we are unwanted and unlovable affect our choices as adults?

2. In her teens, Louisa believed that God sent her to this earth to be abused and unloved. Discuss how our environment affects our understanding of the nature and character of God.

3. Discuss the connection between acting out sexually and substance abuse. What is it in ourselves that needs to medicate and act out in shameful ways?

4. Louisa shared that she felt “loved” by her pimp because he was there for her. In essence, she was looking for love in all the wrong places. In her mind, bad love was better than no love. How does our need for love and acceptance lend itself to the pursuit of fake love? How does this pursuit of false intimacy block God’s true love?

5. She states that she was addicted to men and sex - addicted to what that did for her emotionally. How do addictions distort our perception of life and love? How does God’s love break us free from addictions?

6. She felt the love of God through Christians who accepted her and did not judge her. How do our attitudes and choices as Christians influence others to pursue God?

Title: The Prostitute at the Well

Speaker: Kristy Childs

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c08d494

1. Kristy talks about her history of abuse and how that led to unhealthy and destructive sexual choices. She indicates that she survived by using sex for money, food, and shelter and felt an obligation to those who used her. Discuss how sexual abuse and survival leads victims to giving up their sexual self in order to survive.

2. She indicates that she did not have a pimp early in her journey, but was pulled in by the customers themselves. Eventually, a pimp came along and gave her a sense of security. Discuss how the need for security may lead to safety, but not healing.

3. Discuss Kristy's idea that prostitution is nothing but "paid rape".

4. Kristy breaks down at one point while talking about the loss of love as a child and the realization that she may never get that love. Outside of God, this may be true. In our healing, how do we find the love that we needed as children? How does the Church fit into that space?

5. Kristy survived prostitution by detaching, or what is known as dissociation. She questioned Jesus during this time but prayed for His protection. She asked Him why these things happened to her? Many victims question God as to why? What would you tell them?

6. Kristy began to ask Pontius Pilate's question: "What is the truth?" John 8:32 tells us that the truth will set us free. What does it take to find the truth? How does our wounded heart and unhealthy ways of thinking prevent us from accepting truth?

7. Kristy confesses that even well into her healing, she would prostitute to make money to pay bills. How does grace allow us to understand this desperation and move us to compassion?

8. Kristy talks about a "risk reduction model" for healing. What are your thoughts about this? How does this model help in healing?

Title: The Dark World of Adult Sex Trafficking

Speaker: Jill Ranes

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+17ac9dc

1. Jill talks about her childhood and broken family and the effect that they had on her ability to trust others with all her heart. How does childhood abuse and broken families lend itself to reaching decisions that make people vulnerable to sex trafficking?

2. Jill talks about repeated rapes by groups of men and how that created an interior resolve to survive. Eventually, she discovered that she was a victim of a satanic organization. Discuss the link between Satanism and sex crimes.

3. Jill's experience led her to ask questions about God. All of us have a sense that God exists. What prevents us from listening to that God-consciousness? How does our shame and fear prevent us from hearing the Holy Spirit?

4. Jill mentions sexual, satanic ritual abuse. How does sexual abuse through satanic rituals make the sex abuse more challenging to the victim? How does it affect the role of the minister?

5. She indicates that the satanic organization had people in law enforcement and other sectors of society. What are your thoughts about this and how does this make escape from abuse more difficult?

6. God sent Jill to a shelter where Christians prayed over her and protected her. How did God change Jill's sense of self and her understanding of His love?

7. Her story could make one skeptical and even cause one to think she was delusional. Yet, this is how such groups operate - knowing that others will question the sanity of the victims. Why should the Church first listen and not judge the victim before making decisions about the viability of their story?

Title: Sex Trafficking Around the World

Speaker: Dawn Jewell

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c647e95

1. Dawn discusses the connection between sex trafficking and cultural norms for males, (-i.e. Greek men taking

their teen boys to brothels as a right of passage). How does American culture in some ways encourage sex trafficking?

2. How can sex trafficking exist in a culture that has a strong Christian influence, with churches “on every corner”?

3. Discuss the connection between sex trafficking, childhood abuse, and the need to survive?

4. Discuss the connection between sex trafficking and substance abuse?

5. Dawn says that many in recovery share their story as a part of their recovery. Discuss the connection between sharing one’s story and one’s healing. How does one’s faith in Christ give strength and courage to speak publicly?

6. Dawn indicates that many who are being trafficked believe that their only way out is death. How does trafficking cause one to lose hope? How can the Church provide hope for those who live in such a brutal world?

7. How does fear and conditioning cause trafficked victims to remain in the abuse? How should the Church respond?

8. Dawn indicates that the idea found in Scripture that all humans have dignity is essential to their healing. How must we in the Church function to respect their inherent God given dignity?

Title: How to Help Sex Trafficking Victims

Speaker: Colette Bercu

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+2e0983f

1. Colette insists that "the world's oldest profession" is NOT a profession. Prostitution is the sexual exploitation of men and women, boys and girls. Why do you think we consider this a profession rather than recognizing it as abuse and exploitation?

2. Colette states that the promise of love, money, and security are motives for victims to enter into trafficking. How do traffickers exploit people's weaknesses and use

them against them? Discuss how the need for love is a big motivator.

3. How do cultural norms reinforce sex trafficking? What cultural norms in America contribute to the continuance of sexual abuse and trafficking?

4. Colette states that law enforcement perpetuates trafficking by not taking it seriously enough to fight it. She argues that society must have a unified voice that cries out against this crime. Discuss what keeps society from speaking out loudly enough to make a difference.

5. Colette indicates that when people are sexually abused, raped, and exploited, that for them, God seems distant, nonexistent, or uncaring? How do we as the Church work to help victims understand God's love and His deep concern for their experience of abuse?

6. Colette indicates that the most successful organizations that work with victims of trafficking are those that bring them to faith in Christ. How does the experience of God's love bring about their healing?

Title: Helping Sex Trafficking Victims

Speaker: Colette Bercu

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+27dffd1

1. What does human trafficking suggest about the value that we place on women and children? What does it say about those who purchase sex slaves?

2. Colette was just an ordinary person who cared enough to do something to help victims. Discuss how God often uses those who care enough to serve others rather than those who are rich or famous.

3. Colette argues that we need to work from within the culture rather than from without. What benefit will this have to victims?

4. “Godly emotion comes with action”, states Colette. What did she mean by this and what role does compassion have in causing us to take action?

5. Trust is essential to reaching trafficked victims for Christ. In what ways is seeking to convert them without building a connection with them harmful?

6. Colette indicates that the ache of hearing stories of abuse keeps the Church from getting involved. We don't want to talk about sex in church or for that matter, anything that make us uncomfortable. How does this fear of facing evil affect our ability to serve society and trafficked victims?

7. Colette indicates that Christian men who were once victimizers must share their testimony of shame and hurt and how Christ set them free from such behavior. What are your thoughts about this? How can Christ be glorified in the testimonies of men who were delivered from using trafficked individuals?

Homosexuality & the Bible

Title: Homosexuality & the Bible

Speaker: Dr. Robert Gagnon

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+783ac4e

1. Dr. Gagnon refers to homosexual behavior as a “first tier sexual offense”. Prove this from the Scripture and reconcile it with the teaching in James 2:10 that when a person commits one sin, he has broken the entire law.

2. Mercy upon repentance takes precedence over the letter of the law because the ultimate goal is the rescue of sinners from eternal damnation. How is this principle illustrated in John 5:5-9, 14 and John 8:1-11?

3. Gay activists insist on “tolerance” of their lifestyle choices in the Church. How does Dr. Gagnon upend this

definition of “tolerance”?

4. Compare the world’s understanding of “love” with what Dr. Gagnon says is the biblical definition of love. How does this impact the gay activist claim that their homosexual relationships are “loving”? How can confronting our sexual sins be an act of love?

5. Discuss Dr. Gagnon’s exegesis of the biblical passages that refer to homosexual behavior. (Refer to Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:8-11; Genesis 19 and Jude 5-7).

Title: God’s Design for Human Sexual Behavior – Part 1

Speaker: Dr. Robert Gagnon

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1e88fcc

1. Dr. Gagnon indicates that humans and animals are made male and female. However, only humans are made in God’s image. How does the image of God make us different than animals? How does this affect the use of

our sexuality?

2. Scripture indicates that Eve being taken from the side of Adam indicates a sacred relationship between male and female. How does an understanding of this sacredness relate to not just sexuality but also marriage?

3. In this video, Dr. Gagnon enumerates various scriptural prohibitions against same-sex behavior as well as adultery and bestiality. Involving oneself in such behaviors as a supplement to heterosexual sexuality is a violation of the sacred. Discuss these behaviors in that light and how they affect the sacredness of human sexuality and marriage.

4. Jesus did not talk specifically about homosexual behavior, incest or other sexual sins. Instead, He reinforced commands about marriage and sexuality already established in the Old Testament. How does His focus on the divine plan rather than a complete list of sexual sins make His teaching more profound?

5. For Jesus, sexual purity matters because sexual offenses destroy the integrity of the family and can get a person thrown into Hell. Why should sexual purity still

matter today?

6. By focusing on adultery and divorce, Jesus closed any loopholes for sex outside of marriage. He also reaffirmed the sanctity of marriage as being vital to holy and healthy living. In what ways has the church lost this focus? What would we need to do to regain this divine teaching?

7. Jesus connects with sinners such as the tax collector and the woman caught in adultery by showing His unconditional love for them. At the same time, He holds them to the divine plan for sexual expression. How can we retain the sexual purity standard that God desires for us while witnessing to those who are involved in sexual sin?

Title: God's Design for Human Sexual Behavior – Part 2

Speaker: Dr. Robert Gagnon

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3ca2d1b

1. Romans 1:18-32 contains a list of behaviors that keep unrepentant people from the Kingdom of God. Adultery and idolatry are mentioned early in the list. Discuss the importance of these two offenses as they pertain to God's action in creating man in His image.

2. Homosexual behavior is indicated in Romans 1 as the most egregious way that man can disconnect from the image of God. Discuss the ways in which it is an act against nature and the way man has been created.

3. Dr. Gagnon tells us that God's will is embedded in our design as males and females, both sexually and relationally. How does this help us understand sexual ethics, sexual purity, and the divine plan for marriage?

4. Dr. Gagnon provides evidence against same-sex marriage from ancient rabbis and Christian leaders. How does same-sex marriage lead to a confusion of God's design for creation and marriage? What does same-sex marriage do to the image of God revealed in heterosexual marriage?

5. Romans 1 indicates that God "gives over" to sexual impurity those who dishonor Him by embracing

homosexual lust. This “giving over” is a manifestation of God’s wrath - a subject that many Christians try to avoid today. Discuss this aspect of God’s wrath and how it might apply to other forms of sexual sin? What difference would this make in whether or not we engage in other forms of sexual sin?

6. Discuss the scriptural principles that make attempts by some males to feminize themselves in order attract other men a mockery of God’s created order.

Homosexuality & Culture

Title: Questions Homosexuals Ask

Speaker: Dr. Michael Brown

Video URL: Pt 1: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+2b2d0dc

Pt 2: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3580c62

1. Dr. Brown indicates that God loves everyone regardless of the nature of their sin. He redeems us because He loves us. He also seeks to transform us so that we no longer love sinful desires. Scripture teaches that sin should no longer be our master (Romans 6:14). Obedience now is a fruit of our new relationship with Him. Discuss the idea that we are loved even though we sometimes stumble and fall.

2. What keeps us from doing God's will? What hinders us from living a Christlike life?

3. Dr. Brown indicates that the entire Bible teaches that homosexual practice is harmful, sinful, and destructive to our very selves. Discuss why current culture rejects this teaching. Why does the Bible stand firm against all forms of sexual immorality?

4. Dr. Brown reveals that there is no scientific evidence that homosexuality is genetic or biologically determined. Why do you think the culture refuses to follow the science and/or the Scriptures? What damage might the individual sustain should they refuse to accept God's directives on this matter?

5. Can a person be a Christian and openly live the gay lifestyle? Discuss this idea as it relates to clear biblical teaching that when a believer continues in sin, they are deceiving themselves (1 John 2:3-6).

Title: More Tough Questions About Homosexuality - Part 1

Speaker: Dr. Michael Brown

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+0753729

1. Dr. Brown indicates that even though there is no evidence that homosexuality is “inborn” he does acknowledge that such desires can be deeply imprinted during childhood. How can Scripture help us to sort through the presence of such powerful feelings?

2. Though Jesus hung out with sexual sinners He did not practice “affirmational inclusion” but rather, “transformational inclusion”. He expected sinners to be transformed by the renewing of their minds and to forsake sexual sin. How does affirmational inclusion (continuing to embrace a homosexual identity and/or behavior) prevent transformation into holiness?

3. Dr. Brown states that Scripture presupposes heterosexual relationships. How does this reality sync mankind with the image of God?

4. God’s word calls us to holiness - not heterosexuality. The challenge for us is not to fight same-sex attraction, but to seek holiness. What difference would this approach make in the life of a Christian who struggles

with other kinds of sexual sin?

5. How does embracing same-sex attraction go against God's call to deny one's self and take up one's cross to follow Christ?

6. Christ indicates that all sexual behavior outside of heterosexual marriage is immorality. How do things like adultery, pornography, fornication, etc. cause a defiling that inhibits our ability to walk in holiness?

7. Dr. Brown reveals that God's grace is not God looking the other way. Rather, it is the idea that God is loving and patient with us, yet still calls us to live in truth. God's grace is His power and help toward that end. How would living in this truth help us to overcome sexual struggles?

8. Many gay men and women report that they have experienced hatred from Christians rather than love. How will love rather than judgment bring healing to the same-sex attracted person?

Title: More Tough Questions About Homosexuality - Part 2

Speaker: Dr. Michael Brown

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+077726f

1. The Church is called to make righteous judgments. What has our fear of speaking out about God's condemnation of homosexual behavior done to the gay community? How has it prevented them from finding the truth of God's love?

2. Dr. Brown teaches that the Bible presupposes heterosexuality as the norm for marriage, family and sexual behavior. What does this presupposition mean for our culture today?

3. Dr. Brown indicates that there are haters everywhere. Indeed, sharing the truth from God's Word is considered hate speech. How does this charge affect the responsibility that we have as Christians to speak life into culture?

4. God does not condemn anyone for having homosexual feelings. He condemns the acting out of those feelings and consequent rejection of His transforming love and

grace. What keeps us from receiving His love and grace? How does grace help those who struggle with certain kinds of feelings? How does it help us find freedom from them?

5. Cooperating with the Lord in the transformation of our lives is our responsibility. What hinders us from taking that responsibility? What are the benefits if we choose to cooperate with God and His Word in our life and relationships?

6. There is much evidence that God has, to one degree or another, healed many who struggle with same-sex attraction. Yet there are some who still struggle mightily. How is trusting the Lord to transform us rather than using our own strength and wisdom a healthier way of living?

7. Discuss the assertion that we can live without sex but we cannot live without God.

Homosexual Confusion in the Church

Title: Homosexual Struggle in Church

Speaker: Jeff Johnston

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1afbe32

1. Jeff talks about his dual life of living in sexual sin while being active in his church. How do you think someone is able to live this double life and what keeps them from turning from their sin?

2. Jeff talks about his desire to work hard at religious behaviors, memorization of scripture, etc. but found little help for his same-sex attraction in these activities. He mentions that this led to feelings of failure and deep shame. How do you think such feelings keep us imprisoned in a life of sin?

3. Jason talks about identifying the shame “roots” that keep us in bondage. What are/were some of your shame “roots”?

4. Discuss how self-hatred operates as a root issue for any struggle with sexual sin?

5. Jeff talks about the fact that homosexuals define themselves by that label. How is it that embracing such labels deepens our bondage but that redefining them according to God’s Word sets one free?

6. Confession was an essential part of Jeff’s healing - and not just confessing his behaviors, but also the intents and negative emotions that lay hidden inside of him. How does confession, complete confession, lead to healing of one’s sexual bondage?

Title: Homosexual in the Black Church

Speaker: James Wimbush

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3bf11d9

1. James stated that he felt inferior and inadequate as a man. He had no male role models and consequently felt more comfortable around women. Eventually, he was molested by a man which led to early sexual experiences with other males. Discuss the role of male sexual abuse and its link to same-sex attraction? How does this alienate one from healthy male connections?

2. Sy Rogers tells us that when we have struggles in our thought life we need to "run to God" and submit those thoughts to Christ. How would this make a difference? How would this lead to victory? Scripture says we are to bring our thoughts to the obedience of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5).

3. James was molested at age five. He states that his sexual abuse "stole my manhood". He says that his only ability to relate to men was through sex. What are your thoughts about sexual abuse robbing one of one's sexual identity?

4. James said that as his life became more meaningless he would search for more meaning. Then, he found Christ and the Spirit of God filled him. How does God's love give us meaning? What meaning does it provide?

What meaning has it given you?

5. James had to forgive as a part of his healing. What role does forgiveness play in our healing? Who do you need to forgive? How did your forgiveness by Christ make a difference in your mind and heart? Thank the Lord for your forgiveness and pray to ask Father God to empower you to forgive your offenders.

Title: Pastor's Wife Discovers He is Gay

Speaker: Ginger Haan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+71b27d1

1. Ginger reveals that for many years she could sense that something was wrong in their marriage but could not determine what it was. Discuss the reality that many times people sense something is wrong but cannot define the problem. What do you do in such a case?

2. Discuss Ginger's response to her husband when she discovered that a romantic card had been sent to him by a man. How does patience and grace help our ability to

heal and work through such issues?

3. After five years of working on their marriage Ginger stayed faithful and prayed for her husband even after a two-year separation. What would you need to do to stay patient and trusting in God during such a trial?

4. At one point, the Lord revealed to Ginger that her attitude, pride, resentments, and judgments were just as sinful as her husband's behaviors. How would you respond if God said the same thing to you?

5. Ginger's sons were affected by the disconnection from their father. How does a father-wound lend itself to children acting out in unhealthy ways?

6. Ginger and her family shared their testimony with their church. What effect does sharing one's healing journey have on one's faith, one's healing, and one's recovery?

7. The Lord lived His life through Ginger as evidence of His love for her husband. Discuss the thought that the evidence of God's work in our lives may be the only thing that keeps another connected to God.

Title: A Pastoral View of Homosexuality

Speaker: Bob Stith

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+f30fd2c

1. Many pastors and other believers make fun of those with same-sex attraction. In the case of our speaker, Bob, God convicted him for his jokes and derogatory comments. What does making jokes about gay and lesbian people say about us and our faith? What does it say about our spiritual growth? What does it communicate to God?

2. What difference would it make if we lived a life of gratitude for Father God's love and work in our life"?

3. Bob talks about the role of the father in the development of same-sex attraction in a child. What are your thoughts about this? What impact did your relationship with your father have on you?

4. Bob heard many gay and lesbian people speak of being wounded by the body of Christ. How does the

ignorance of the Church or the manner in which it treats homosexuals lead strugglers away from Christ? Didn't Jesus say that we will be held accountable for every idle word that we speak (Matthew 12:36)? Would we continue to condemn or ridicule others if Christ was standing next to us? Why or why not?

Title: Freedom from Homosexuality

Speaker: Jeff Buchanan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+bcb029a

1. We all have a need for connection and love. How was this manifested in Jeff's story of following Jim, who kept moving away from him? What do you think Jeff felt when confronted? What do you think motivated his behavior?

2. Jeff talks about two sides: first, a desire to follow Christ, and second, a passion for same-sex relationships. How did Jeff reconcile these two passions and find peace and strength?

3. How does focusing on “symptoms” rather than the core issues of a person’s “problem” cause damage?

4. Jeff says his healing and recovery came from “consistent teaching” of God’s Word and “consistent relationship” with loving Christians. How do you think these two things, working together, help those with same-sex attractions find healing and health?

5. Jeff states that a commitment to community, relationship, Scripture and raising mature disciples is crucial for growth and maturity. How are you doing in these areas personally and in your community of faith?

6. David Foster points out in the summary that knowing our purpose in life is essential to a healthy life and joy. What is your purpose? How does your purpose fit into God’s plan for your life?

Homosexual Confusion in the Family

Title: Homosexuality in the Family

Speaker: Nancy Heche

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+d8e6296

1. Nancy shared that God the Father used the issue with her daughter Anne as preparation to build into her the heart and character of the Father. What would you do if God told you that? What would you need in order to develop that character?

2. Nancy felt alone in the early days of her daughter's lesbian relationship. How have you felt alone and what effect did feeling alone have on you? What difference might it make to have a support system and someone to walk with during your painful journey?

3. Sexual sins in a family can be difficult to get rid of according to Nancy. Yet, through the power of the Holy Spirit we find strength and peace. How can the Holy Spirit provide peace? What keeps us from seeking the Holy Spirit for comfort and peace?

4. Nancy teaches from 2 Corinthians 5:19 that we have been given the ministry of reconciliation. How can you live a life of reconciliation with your spouse or children? What would you have to do to become a person of reconciliation?

5. Nancy lives a life of blessing others. She states that by blessing another God is freed to release His power and blessing to everyone involved. Do you pray blessings over your loved one in the gay lifestyle? Do you pray daily for a blessing over their life? Do you fast for them?

Title: Preventing Homosexuality

Speaker: Don Schmierer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+e01853f

1. Learn how to listen. This is the first thing Don wants parents to do. But he wants them to listen not just for facts but also for feelings. What difference would listening to one's thoughts AND feelings make in the parent-child bond?

2. Don indicates that the father-bond with a son is very important. And it's not how the father sees the relationship but most important, it's the perception of the child that matters. Thus, Don makes it clear that fathers must love, accept and affirm their sons. What difference would fatherly words of love and affirmation have made for you in your struggle with sin?

3. How did the lack of connection to your father affect your sexuality or sexual decisions?

4. Don reveals most people will believe that God the Father is the same as their earthly father. Discuss the merits of this thinking and its implications for healthy mature development and spirituality. How do you think that getting this right will affect one's view of God the Father?

5. Forgiveness is essential according to Neil Anderson.

What difference would it make for you emotionally and spiritually if you forgave others?

6. Don stated that in his journey to forgiveness he learned he had to pray a prayer of blessing over his offender. Praying this prayer of blessing led to Don finding inner peace with himself and Abba Father. Who do you need to forgive? What keeps you from forgiving? Do you need to forgive a parent? What do you want from your parent that would make it easier for you to forgive?

Title: Parenting a Gay Child - Part 1

Speakers: Joe and Marian Allen; Durward & Maria White

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+821607e

1. Durward talks about his absence and limited emotional connection to his son and sees this as a part of the problem. Discuss how the lack of emotional bonding to a father affects a child.

2. Having listened to their stories, discuss the challenge parents face in accepting the revelation of their child's same-sex attraction and/or behavior.

3. Joe talks about how they could "fix everything else" and how they assumed that they could "fix this too." Discuss how a parent's denial of their child's perspective hinders that child's healing.

4. Maria reveals that she denied a growing fear within that her son was gay. Discuss the role that fear plays in a parent's ability to handle family crises in a healthy manner.

5. Joe reveals that a Christian counselor affirmed their son's same-sex attractions and blamed them for their lack of support. Just because a person is a "Christian" counselor does not mean they understand every issue from a biblical perspective. How have counselors been a hindrance or help in your journey?

6. Discuss how our relationship with God and His truth serves as the fuel we need to get through the issues we face with our children.

7. How do grace, wisdom and truth intersect to help parents know and understand how to respond to their children who struggle with same-sex attraction?

Title: Parenting a Gay Child - Part 2

Speakers: Allens; Vratnys; Whites, Noyes

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7bebf12

1. What are your thoughts about the lesbians who could not equate the word “mother” with the word “friend”?

2. What are your thoughts about those who could not equate the word “pastor” with the word “friend”?

3. How does the church’s reaction to those with same-sex attraction help or hinder their recovery?

4. “Love them unconditionally” is the advice given by Joe Allen. Why is this type of love essential for the work of healing?

5. Joe talks about the need for parents to have healthy boundaries. Discuss the types of boundaries parents might need in helping their same-sex attracted child.

6. Myra talks about the rules set for their children living in their home. Rules can be too rigid or too soft. How do boundaries help in determining these rules?

7. Joe talks about parents not blaming themselves for their child's choice to pursue a gay lifestyle. Why is this important?

8. According to Myra, keeping communication open is essential to keeping the parent-child relationship healthy. Discuss the benefits of such open communication.

Title: Life After Gay Son is Murdered

Speakers: Joe and Marian Allen

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8661828

1. Marian says that it seemed like their world had come to an end when their son told them he was gay. Discuss the feelings and emotions that a parent goes through in such a moment and how their initial, visceral response was transformed into one that brought life and redemption to everyone involved. Use James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 4:12-19 and other related passages in your discussion.

2. The death of their son can be seen as a metaphor for the spiritual death that grips everyone who lives outside of Jesus Christ. Discuss this in light of the fallen state of man and his penchant for sinning.

3. How should a parent respond to a son or daughter who claims to be gay?

4. What parental mistakes are often associated with a child becoming homosexual and how should the parent deal with their unwitting part in the process?

5. What can a parent do to minimize the chances of having a gay child?

6. The devastation of their son's murder by his gay lover

is apparent in everything Joe and Marian said during the interview. Discuss the mercy of God in giving them visions of consolation and other assurances that their son was in heaven.

7. Joe and Marion pray for the man who killed their son. Discuss this extraordinary act of mercy and love and how it might apply to people in your own life.

Title: Loving & Respecting a Gay Son

Speakers: Gene & Anita Eggman

Video URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whnNWwuZ8CE

1. Anita talks about struggling with depression and the questions that kept coming to her mind to explain why their son was gay. What have some of the thoughts about a gay child been in your life or the life of someone you know?

2. Discuss the role of prayer in finding peace among the challenges of having a child who struggles with same-sex attraction.

3. What are the benefits of being in a support group for parents of gay children?

4. God equips the obedient for the challenges of life. Discuss the biblical idea that God does not call the equipped, but the obedient.

5. Discuss the assertion that simply using Scripture to change a child with same-sex attraction is not a good idea. What are the merits of simply loving and caring for them while standing in truth with love and humility?

6. Parents struggle with decisions that can appear to be approving of a child's lifestyle. The challenge is separating the acceptance of their choices from accepting them as people. Discuss this struggle of loving the sinner and disapproving of the sin.

Title: Coping with Losing a Gay Son

Speakers: Ted & Jan Schneider

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+452c62d

1. The Schneider's indicate that they did not know their son was gay. He told them when he was 34 years old. As you listened to their heartbreak and despair, discuss your reactions when you learned about your child. How was it similar? How was it different?

2. Discuss the advice that God gave to the Schneider's - to share their testimony, so as to not waste their pain and their journey. How does sharing one's journey help in healing?

3. The Schneider's found themselves having to work between affirming their son as their son, and affirming his lifestyle. Discuss this balance and the struggles it causes parents.

4. Ted states that early in the process he tended to see his son as gay and thus did not get involved in his son's life in other areas. What keeps us focusing on a person's struggle with sin rather than seeing them as an individual?

5. Jesus never leaves nor forsakes us. Why is it important for parents of wayward children to do the same?

6. Ted indicates that he regrets that his son was not able to communicate his personal struggle with same-sex attraction. What have we done to keep our kids from being able to trust us with their secret heart? Why is communication so important in helping the parent-child relationship stay strong and healthy in the midst of the healing journey?

Title: Loved Ones with Same-Sex Attraction

Speakers: Bryan Kliewer & Jill Rodgers

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+eaa40d4

1. What would you do and why if an extended family member revealed that he/she was living in a same-sex relationship? What shouldn't you do?

2. What would you do differently and why if an immediate family member revealed that he/she was living in a same-sex relationship? What shouldn't you do?

3. What would you do and why if a close friend or

family member invited you to attend his/her same-sex “marriage” ceremony? What if they asked to stay overnight in your home?

4. Where would you go to find resources for helping a friend or family member who struggles with homosexual confusion?

5. How do grace and truth work together in addressing this and other situations where a family member or friend is living in sin - of any kind?

6. Describe your experience(s) in interacting with homosexuals?

7. Former lesbian Jill Rodgers says that when a homosexual sees someone who is devoted to the Lord, who is more in love with Jesus than their sin, and who lives their life accordingly, it gives them hope that there is a way out. Discuss that dynamic.

Title: Raised by Gay Aunt

Speaker: Mike Keahbone

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+5a033e5

1. As you listened to Mike's testimony, what did you feel regarding his sense of loss in not having a mom and dad present in his life?

2. While being raised by a lesbian couple, Mike reads the Bible, which tells him that homosexual behavior is a sin. In a loving and caring manner, he shares with them what he has read. Discuss the importance of sharing God's truths in a loving and caring manner.

3. Mike focused less on his aunt's lesbian lifestyle than on her need for salvation. What difference does this make in reaching those in the gay community?

4. Mike talks about the need to be patient, caring, and understanding with one another so as to keep love flowing. He also makes it clear that his salvation was crucial to his transformation. How does your salvation make a difference in how you respond to the gay community?

5. Mike tells his aunt that even though she is a lesbian,

he loves and respects her the same as he did when he was 7 years old. Why is the need to be loving and accepting so crucial in helping those in the lifestyle find healing during their journey out of the lifestyle?

6. Mike reveals that much of the defensiveness of the gay community comes from deep hurt and pain. What difference would it make if we focused on their hurt and pain rather than on their sexual behavior? Why is their salvation necessary for healing?

7. Repentance for sin and acceptance of Christ as Savior is essential for healing. Discuss how your salvation and walk with the Lord has helped in the healing of your struggles.

Title: Loving a Gay Brother

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Arterburn

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+rkozapn

1. Child sexual abuse can lend itself toward homosexual confusion. Discuss the reasons for this and how, when

this abuse happens in the church, it makes the confusion more complex?

2. Discuss the lack of emotional connection to parents and others and how this sense of aloneness leads to unhealthy sexual acting out?

3. Steve decides to agree to disagree with his brother's view on homosexuality and affirmed his unconditional love. This openness and words of acceptance led to their connection. How does trying to win a theological argument hurt relationships?

4. Steve admits that his life had been much more immoral than his brother's. In what ways did that make it more difficult for him to call his brother to the carpet? What is the solution to that conundrum? Should it make a difference?

5. Steve decided that their relationship as brothers was more important than their theological disagreement about same-sex attraction. Why is keeping relational doors open so important in relating to family members with same-sex attraction?

6. How does fear keep us from ministering to those who are struggling with homosexual confusion? How does fear that they will contract some deadly disease affect sound relating and thinking?

7. Steve reveals how to minister to those in the gay community. His advice: let them know that you care more about them than anything else. Listen to them. Communicate with them. Understand them. Throw your personal agenda away and be ready to walk down the path with them. What difference will it make for the parent-child relationship if you do these things?

8. Parents must allow themselves to grieve the hopes and dreams that they had for their children. How will such grieving allow for the healing of the parent? How will this grieving allow the parent to accept their child?

Homosexual Confusion in Marriage

Title: Married to a Homosexual Pastor

Speaker: Carol Wagstaff

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3e85d10

1. “Brokenness attracts brokenness.” Discuss the truth of this statement by Carol and its implications for the decisions we make in life, love, and even in our Christian walk.

2. Carol defines herself as codependent. She had a need to fix broken people. This leads to a dependency on fixing others. Thus, codependent people have a poor sense of self and identity. Carol finally realized that her identity and sense of self had to come from her walk with Christ. Where do you, did you, get your identity? How did your family speak into your sense of self?

Discuss the value of placing our identity and sense of self in Christ and His cross.

3. Carol encourages wives to look at themselves first and not focus on changing their husbands. What are the merits of this thinking? How would this potentially make the marriage healthy?

4. Healing for the spouse, according to Carol, is about a deeper, more intimate walk with Christ. She did this through reading Scripture and through relationships with others who provide love and acceptance without making their spouse their god. What keeps you from reading Scripture? What prevents you from a deeper and more intimate walk with Christ?

5. Moving through the cycle of grief is important in the healing process of one's marriage. Of course, the same-sex attracted (SSA) spouse must want to transform. However, the wife has to grieve her marriage. What aspects of one's marriage does a spouse have to grieve? How will grieving allow for the spouse to heal? How does Christ support our grieving (Romans 12:15; 1 Corinthians 1:3-4)?

Title: Homosexual Confusion in Marriage

Speaker: Mike Goeke

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+f9c47f2

1. Mike felt that he could not measure up to his father and felt more connected to his mother. He sensed that he was not as special to his father than his younger brother. Over time, this led to homosexual confusion, which became sexual in 8th grade. How do you relate to his journey? How did you feel about yourself under similar circumstances? How did you think God viewed you?

2. Mike would read gay porn and gay personal ads, which only fed his homosexual confusion. How did porn use or other things contribute to your sexual brokenness?

3. It was when Mike received a revelation of God's unconditional love and acceptance that his desire to turn his life around and save his marriage became a possibility. He knew what was right and wrong but needed the love of Father God to rescue his heart.

Discuss the idea that one can know scripture but never really feel the love of God. Why do you think so many Christians focus on knowing the Word of God at the expense of walking in intimacy with God?

4. Mike realized that his early prayers were not answered because they were in essence demands of God. It was not until he surrendered his total life in brokenness and told Father God to do what He wanted that transformation began. This is evidence that humility is essential for transformation. Discuss the nature of humility and its essentialness to releasing the power of God in our lives. How does pride prevent this release?

5. Mike found that healing means that he is comfortable with being around men as men - that his marriage relationship, even sexually, has been enriched and deepened. With humility being key to the healing process, what are signs of healing from SSA or other sexual sins? Pray to Father God and confess any pride and move to humility. Pray for healing and begin to walk in obedience today.

Title: Married Gay Minister

Speaker: Carol Wagstaff

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+236a1dc

1. Many women married to gay men believe that they are the problem, not their husband. What was your experience? Discuss the struggle wives have in trying to figure out hidden issues in the marriage while not knowing their husband is same-sex attracted.

2. Carol talks about her anger towards God for "allowing her" to marry a gay man after she kept herself pure. Talk about the role of anger in the healing process and in particular, anger towards God.

3. Carol's ex-husband contracted AIDS and died from it. She talked about grieving for him when he received the diagnosis. Carol never lost her love and care for her ex-husband. Discuss how this is important not just to our own spiritual and relational life but also to the relationship with our loved one.

4. Carol's son struggled with the idea that he might be gay because his father was homosexual. Questioning

one's own sexuality can be normal in such families. How has this been a part of your journey and what did you do to overcome it and realize your God given, heterosexual design?

5. Carol talks about how God made her look at and deal with her own life, her own judgments, pride, etc. Through this humility, she was able to confess her own sins. This helped her in being able to serve others. How does God helping us look into our own sins lead to our ability to love others?

6. Carol states that loving a child unconditionally is not the same as approving of their choices. How can healthy boundaries help us maintain this balance? What should such boundaries look like in situations like this?

Title: Former Homosexuals Get Married

Speakers: Garry & Melissa Ingraham

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a6d3afe

1. Both Melissa and Garry discovered that God could set

them free from a fear of the opposite sex by healing the wounds that caused that fear. Discuss how God has set you free from fear, whether related to same-sex attraction or not, and how that has changed your life.

2. Garry mentioned that being accepted by the guys at church was instrumental in his healing process. Melissa mentioned that God challenged her to confess and repent of her hatred of men. How exactly do such actions bring healing and a righting of one's sexual orientation?

3. What could have happened if Garry and Melissa had married before the causes for their same-sex attractions had been healed?

4. How did the kind and loving reaction by Melissa's sister and parents pave the way for her transformation? What would an angry and legalistic reaction have produced?

5. Garry and Melissa believe that those who struggle with same-sex attraction can be greatly helped by interacting with others on the same journey who have the same problem. In what ways do such gatherings help the struggler? What are the dangers?

6. In what ways is a “friends and family” group vital for both the struggler and those who love them?

7. Melissa stated that it is important for the friend or family member to examine what could have been wrong in their own life and interactions with their gay loved one. How might this accentuate the healing process for their gay loved one?

8. Discuss so-called “same-sex marriage” - how it mars the image of God in man and the mocks the divine purpose of marriage.

Homosexual Confusion in Females

Title: Testimony of a Former Lesbian

Speaker: Christine Sneeringer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+53d0bff

1. Christine describes herself as looking like, acting like, and being mistaken for a male from before elementary school until she was in her early twenties. Have you ever known someone like that? If so, did they ever open up to you about the internal confusion that drove them to dress and act that way?

2. As a child, Christine believed that “to be feminine was to be weak”, that “being feminine was a liability”, and that “men were not safe”. She also said that she had an abusive father, that she was sexually abused, and that not only was she not loved and affirmed as a child, but

that she sensed rejection from her mother. Discuss how this mix of factors conspired to create lesbian neurosis within her.

3. Many women who have been sexually abused as children will echo Christine's words: "If this is what it means to be attractive, I don't want to be attractive". What are some of the outcomes of feeling that way about oneself other than homosexual confusion?

4. Christine told us that she became emotionally and sexually enmeshed with a female upperclassman at the age of fifteen. What do you think she was looking for and what do you believe God would rather she have done?

5. Not knowing it was wrong at the time, Christine felt: "All I knew was, I was feeling loved for the first time". Was that really love?

6. Do you believe that being female is weakness? If yes, how is it a weakness? How is maleness strength?

7. If you were sexually abused as a child or youth, how did this affect your understanding of your sexuality and

gender?

8. How has your sexual acting out felt like love for you? In what ways was it also an occlusion of the true healthy love that Abba Father intended?

9. Ask God to show you the lies that you began believing when you were abused - lies about yourself, about the opposite sex, and about God, and then ask Him to show you the truth.

10. Christine tells us that she decided to experiment sexually with guys in order to see if she was gay. Discuss the perils of such thinking.

11. Discuss Christine's experience on the Baptist church softball team. What are some other ways in which we can reach out to those who struggle with homosexual confusion?

12. Christine told us that she was having an affair with a married "Christian" woman on that same softball team. Do you know of people who believe that they are saved and going to heaven even while remaining unrepentant and unwilling to forsake sinful lifestyles that the Bible

teaches will cause them to be lost? How can we witness to such people about their perilous situation?

13. In what ways have you attempted to rationalize your faith in Christ while living in a lifestyle of sexual brokenness?

14. What were the results of this rationalization on your emotional and spiritual health?

15. What would you need to do differently to live in truth and come to Abba Father for healing?

16. Christine prayed to make Jesus “Lord” of her life but was still uncertain how to give up her homosexual lifestyle and find healing. What would you have told her if she had asked you for help?

17. Sy briefly described some of the main elements of the healing process for someone coming out of such a lifestyle (“damage to mend - deficits to fill - commitment to the process”). Discuss these elements and give examples from your own life or that of a friend who has walked this walk.

18. How does a person like Christine go from being erotically and emotionally enmeshed with women to having healthy, non-erotic relationships with women? How can healthy women aid her in that transition?

19. What are some variables that cause the timeframe for this transition to vary from one person to another?

20. How does a person learn to make right choices in the midst of temptation when they have not had a history of doing so in the past?

21. Sy notes that Christine had the proper motivation to please God, and that she had support and perseverance. How important are these elements and how does one acquire them?

22. In his closing, Sy Rogers suggests that we ask God to transfer our passion for immoral pursuits into a greater passion for God. Is that just religious talk or is that a prayer that could receive an answer from God?

23. Make a list of some of the wounded emotions that you have experienced and that still need healing.

24. Make a list of the choices you have made to satisfy your need for bonding (to God and others) - in both healthy and unhealthy ways.

25. Pray over these lists. Ask God to heal the wounds and to forgive you for the sinful lifestyle choices you have made to feel loved and bonded.

26. Commit yourself to God as your loving Father and ask Him to meet the needs of your heart.

Special Segment: David's Q&A – "What is Homosexuality?"

1. Discuss David's statement: "Homosexuals do not exist. Those who struggle with homosexual orientation do exist." According to David, why is this distinction so important?

2. How did the word "homosexuality" go from being a label for certain sexual behaviors, (as originally coined in the field of psychology in the late 1800s), to being thought of as a healthy, natural and innate state of being?

3. Discuss some of the passages in the Bible (both Old & New Testaments) where you find descriptions of homosexual behavior, carefully noting God's opinion of that behavior and the reasoning behind it.

4. How important is it to believe that the Bible is the authoritative, infallible and divinely inspired Word of God? How can the argument for Scriptural authority be made in the brief span of time one usually has in a discussion like this with someone?

5. How important is it to distinguish between the person, (who probably through no fault of their own developed a degree of homosexual confusion), and the sin of acting out on those broken compulsions?

6. David claims that homosexual confusion is in part the result of "arrested emotional development". Discuss what that means, the ways in which a person's emotional development might have been "arrested", and how that knowledge can point us to the elements that need to be healed.

7. What is the dynamic in a relationship with God that helps restart the emotional growth of a person with this

issue?

8. How do you feel about David's exhortation to carefully discern the difference between "being a homosexual" and "having a homosexual orientation"? How might this change your approach to homosexuals? What would you have to do differently to incorporate this distinction into your life and witness?

9. Many people suffer from "arrested emotional development". How might this affect your relationships with God and others?

10. Read David's book The Sexual Healing Reference Edition and develop a plan for witnessing to gay activists that takes into account their beliefs and the temporal and eternal consequences of their behavior.

Title: Lesbianism & Child Sexual Abuse

Speaker: Melissa Coffey

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9005280

1. What are some of the central themes in Melissa's life that shaped her towards same-sex attraction?

2. It was in the "Living Waters" program that Melissa was able to see her parents as wounded and to take responsibility for her decisions, even those she made as a child. This allowed her to see the good in both feminine and masculine traits, which allowed her to heal from her sexual brokenness. What role did your family play in your life decisions? What decisions did you make as a child that led to unhealthy choices in life?

3. Joe Dallas indicates that repentance from sexual sin is not sufficient. We also need to repent of any activities that fuel sexual sin. These might include anger, flirting, blaming others for our choices, etc. What other sins do you need to acknowledge and repent of? Move away from anything that tempts you to sexual sin. Thus repentance includes staying away from certain people, places, and things.

4. Melissa points out that the culture's devaluation of women leads to self-hatred. Thus, these women become disconnected from their own physical being and, in turn, their sexuality. How does self-hatred affect your life?

What do you do to yourself because of your self-hatred?

5. Confess your self-hatred as sin. Then ask Father God to show you how He sees you.

Title: Testimony of a Former Lesbian

Speaker: Theresa Renfroe

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b3af6bc

1. Theresa talks about growing up in a broken home and a sense of gender confusion early in life. How do you think the breakdown of her family life led to this confusion?

2. Theresa talks about how her love for women was essentially an attempt to feel loved by women. Discuss Theresa's understanding that her choice to pursue the lesbian lifestyle was connected to a desire to be loved by her mother. In what ways have the broken relationships in your life affected your sexual choices?

3. Over time, Theresa became more depressed. Sometimes suicidal thoughts dominated her thinking. So, she began to talk to God in hopes that He would bring freedom from her depression. She began to ask the Lord about Abba Father - sincerely seeking answers for her life and struggles. What she was doing was building intimacy with Abba and this began her healing. Discuss the need for intimacy with God as a path for healing and growth.

4. She would seek Scripture, sing worship songs, and talk with Abba. This intimacy led to her healing and growth. God's love is a healing energy for the wounded heart. How has His love healed you? What keeps us from allowing His love to heal our hearts?

5. Isaiah 61 reveals that the Spirit of God heals the brokenhearted. Pray and ask His Spirit to heal your broken heart and restore to you the love you once needed from Him but sought elsewhere.

Title: Out of Lesbianism

Speaker: Miriam Alexander

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+2ba9df2

1. Miriam identified more with her father and boys than her mother and femininity. How does one's identification with the opposite-sex parent affect one's sexual identity?

2. Miriam states that early words spoken over her had a lot to do with her thinking she was lesbian. Talk about the words we use and how these words influence others? What words were spoken over you? How did these words shape you life and life choices?

3. Miriam shared that we need God to create a clean heart in us and to renew our spirit - and that we need to be transformed by the renewing of the mind. Healing is more than just right thinking, however. It is also about healing the broken places in our heart. In that way, our spirits can be renewed. How do we position ourselves before God to have this take place?

4. While Miriam was ingesting drugs and living the lesbian life, she was also involved in church. Discuss how it is that people who live openly in rebellion to

God's Word are sometimes involved in church? How do they handle the shame and guilt?

5. "Seek God every day", Miriam tells us. Satan brings sin and death. God brings hope and healing. She makes it clear that the intimate time we spend with God is what fills the void. Prayer gives us divine direction. These statements by Miriam encourage us to walk in love and intimacy. Having watched this video of Miriam's story, what has happened to you?

Title: Gay Activist Finds Christ

Speaker: Charlene Cothran

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+6232b96

1. Charlene says that her being a lesbian was a deception of Satan. Discuss your thoughts about that statement?

2. If her statement is true, what are some spiritual/deliverance strategies that can be employed by a strong believer to find freedom from bondage to one sin or another?

3. Gay activism seeks first to get “their foot in the door” but their sole purpose is to convert the targeted organization into being gay friendly and supportive. Charlene also indicates that activists don’t want churches to know about their hidden strategy. Why do you think this is? What does this say about the role of the church in response to various gay initiatives?

4. Charlene started to turn her thoughts to Christ when she was forced to face her mortality. She hoped that the “seed of righteousness” that had been implanted in her at age 12 would come alive again. What does this say about God’s Word not returning void? Discuss how the power of God’s Word cuts to the soul and how His truth sheds light on the lies we believe.

5. One day, God told Charlene that she had to choose Him or He was going to send her back into deception. She battled within herself, but chose God. He then began to unveil the secrets behind her bondage and impart power for deliverance and freedom. How does God protect us and provide for us through the challenges we have? What role does our obedience play in our transformation?

Title: Punk Lesbian Finds God

Speaker: Brooke Donnelly

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+34e4c68

1. Brooke equates “living in Hollywood” with “living in a plastic world.” Her years of sexual abuse, broken relationships, drugs, exotic dancing and entry into the lesbian life was a life of pain and brokenness. Why do you think people choose to live from a false identity? What keeps them from living out of who they truly are? How does shame play a role in this? How does Abba Father’s love speak to that shame?

2. Brooke’s partner was a witch who exerted control over her. She had no sense of self and had to do what she was told. Brooke also admits she was demonized. What did she do that gave demonic powers ground in her? What have you done in your past that opened a doorway to dark powers and consequent spiritual warfare?

3. Brooke remembered her mother’s words to call upon Christ when in trouble. Why do you think she

remembered this? Discuss this in light of Psalm 119 where we are told to hide the truth in our hearts that we might not sin against God.

4. Twice Brooke called upon the Lord for help and He responded. Yet, she did not give her life to Him at that time. Why? Discuss times in your life when you sought Abba's help even though you were not yet committed to Him. Why do you think Father does this? What does it say about you that He sometimes does?

5. Andy Reese uses the passage of the lost sheep to help us understand that even when we stray, the loving Shepherd does not beat us up, condemn us, or cut us off. No, He finds us and carries us back to the flock. This is a picture of a loving Father who helps us rebuild what we have broken. How have you experienced this love in your life?

6. Brooke's family welcomed her home with love and acceptance. She was the prodigal come home. Brooke acknowledges that prayer brought her home to Christ. Her salvation was the beginning of her transformation. What difference did you notice in Brooke as she shared her story? How can the Lord restore in you what was

taken from you?

Title: Lesbian No More

Speaker: Pamela Ousley

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a974b69

1. What are some of the primary themes in Pamela's story?

2. What are your thoughts about the adult lesbian woman holding Pamela's hand, etc. Do you think that this is a reason for her lesbian feelings? What role do you think her family had? How does your personal life story relate to Pamela's?

3. Pamela states that her lesbian relationship allowed her to nurture someone. She recognized that she needed to be nurtured herself. Discuss the need to love and be loved and how sexual sin provides a sense that this need is being met.

4. Pamela stated when she went into a gay bar she felt at home. Have you ever felt that way? Why do you think that people sometimes feel “at home” in their sinful lifestyle?

5. Pamela thought she had to be gay. It wasn’t until she discovered Father God’s love and the knowledge that she didn’t have to be gay that she found relief and hope for freedom. But it was when she realized that her sins hurt God that she found ultimate freedom. How does God’s love set us free and give us hope?

Title: Such Were Some of You

Speaker: Linda Jernigan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+cbd2c67

1. Linda talks about the role that sexual abuse by her uncle played in opening the doorway to a life as a homosexual. She said that her abuse “killed who I really was.” How do you think sexual abuse kills one’s sense of self? How did abuse affect you?

2. Many people report that they were introduced to the homosexual lifestyle by someone who was active in church. What are your thoughts about this? How can a Christian reconcile being active in homosexuality while simultaneously practicing faith in Christ? How does Satan use this to his advantage?

3. Most of the people that took advantage of Linda were people actively involved in church and in leadership positions. How would this affect you and your relationship to Christ? What messages about Christ are these people sending to unbelievers? If you were a Christian while living in sexual sin, how has your life misrepresented Christ?

4. Linda says that the offenders who attended her church were among those who gathered under false pretenses - who had no deep relationship with Christ. They lacked intimacy with Him and probably didn't even know what that was. How does intimacy with Father God make a difference in living one's faith as opposed to attendance at church with little to no intimacy?

5. Linda found happiness and solace in alcohol and drugs. Outside of Christ, what have you turned to in

order to find peace and happiness? Ultimately, what did those sources of happiness leave you with? How does Christ's love meet these needs and what does it require that the other sources do not?

6. Linda reports that lesbian relationships are mostly about the emotional attachment and not about the sex. She had little to no emotional attachments as a child. What does this say about the need for love and intimacy at any cost? How does Christ speak to us regarding our deep need for love and connection?

Title: The Father Heals the Lesbian

Speaker: Maite Rodriguez

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+54ffeb9

1. What major themes did you hear in Maite's life that led to her same-sex attraction?

2. Maite found a "need to be needed" in her sexual relationship with the older girl. We all have a need for love and intimacy. What is the connection between

sexual relationships and a sense of being needed? How does the human mind make sense of this? What did your early childhood sexual experiences say about you? For Maite, it told her she was a lesbian.

3. Hope. Freedom. Healing. These were the words Maite heard at a Christian conference. She desperately desired these. In your brokenness, what words did you want to hear? How does Christ communicate those words to our hearts and minds?

4. Christ redeemed Maite when she came to a point of humility, repentance and an admission that she could not change herself. Rather than guilt, she felt peace! Romans 8:1 says that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Why is it important to not receive judgment, but love, in order to be transformed?

Title: The Progression of Lesbian Confusion - Part 1

Speaker: Christie May

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+18f2185

1. What were the major themes in Christie's life that shaped her homosexual confusion?

2. Christie spent much of her childhood alone and disconnected. This led her to become independent and "very tough". How do you think a sense of aloneness and disconnection allows Satan to intervene in one's life? What are some of the ways that God brings a sense of love and connection? How did this happen for you?

3. Christie's sexual abuse made her believe that she was an object of perversion - a message that was not only revealed by her sexual abuser but also by a father who was addicted to porn. Discuss the nature of sexual abuse on identity and how this plays itself out in adult life.

4. A common theme among lesbians is the strong emotional attachments that they form with each other. They feel loved, valued, and connected. This is a human need and placed in us by Father God. However, Satan meets these needs in unhealthy ways. Talk about how you attempted to get your emotional bonding needs met and how such methods affected your life. What connection did they have to your sexual brokenness?

5. Same-sex parents help their child understand what it means to be male or female. Thus, Christie never had her femininity called forth. So that they can develop into healthy, mature adults, why is it important for children to have both a father and a mother in their life?

Title: The Progression of Lesbian Confusion - Part 2

Speaker: Christie May

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7e174ac

1. Christie was provided with a definition of sin as "anything that hurts you." What do you think about this definition? How does it apply to our lives?

2. Shame confronts Christie after a relapse into a lesbian relationship. The shame told her she was a bad Christian and unworthy. What she realized was that she needed Christ to tell her who she was and that this required a dying to self and letting Christ "raise me from the dead." Why is dying to self significant to healing and wholeness? Why do we hold parts of our self back from Christ? What parts do you hold on to that you have not

given to Christ? What keeps you from giving them to Him?

3. Changing one's environment can be a necessary step for healing? Why might this be? What complications arise by staying in an environment that prevents healing? What fears keeps people from changing their environment?

4. During her healing process, Christie found out that heterosexual women were very much like she was. What significance does this have for a person's healing from same-sex attraction?

Title: Choosing Christ Over Homosexual Confusion

Speaker: Brenna Simonds

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+be26387

1. Brenna felt abandoned and suffered from an ongoing fear of further abandonment. This pain and hurt led to an eating disorder and as a freshman in high school her first lesbian experience. What are your thoughts about

the fear of abandonment and our choices to seek out love and acceptance through sexual sin?

2. While her sexual identity confusion continued, Brenna struggled with an eating disorder. This finally motivated her to seek Christ in prayer. What are your thoughts about this? What connection do you think the disorder might have had with her gay identity?

3. Brenna decided to obey the Lord's will for her life even when it meant leaving her identity as a lesbian. That was a bold step. It took courage and a longing for love. In what ways have you made this type of choice? Share with each other.

4. God tells us He will never leave us nor abandon us. Why is this so important to the human soul and spirit? Why do you think He tells us this repeatedly? What would freedom look like if we lived from such love and acceptance?

Title: God's Call to the Lesbian

Speaker: Anne Paulk

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+37ef5bf

1. What major themes in Anne's life led to her same-sex attraction? How did these things assist in her developing homosexual confusion?

2. Anne's sexual abuse led to a distrust of men. What other effects does sexual abuse have on a person? In what ways does this contribute to same-sex attraction?

3. Anne said that when she rejected her own femininity she also rejected her mother's. Years later she was able to connect to her mother and eventually her own femininity. Discuss the idea that an aspect of same-sex attraction is a rejection of one's sexuality as male or female. Why did God make us male and female? Pray and thank Christ for your sexuality and choose to embrace it as a part of His divine plan for you.

4. Anne's story is also one of pain in marriage. Her husband returned to the gay lifestyle. How does her explanation of what keeps people growing, maturing and being healed affect you? Thank the Lord that you "were" those things (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

Homosexual Confusion in Males

Title: Compassion for the Homosexual: Healing for Sexual Brokenness

Speaker: Francis MacNutt

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+e8f7427

1. How does inner healing differ from other kinds of healing?

2. In what ways does childhood sexual abuse leave a permanent imprint in a person's soul?

3. How does Paul's statement in Romans 7, (about doing the things he doesn't want to do), play into this kind of thing? How do you relate on a daily basis to the Romans 7 internal struggle?

4. Sometimes a demonic element exacerbates this kind of imprint and makes it much worse. In what ways can this happen?

5. If a young man doesn't receive (or perceive) the love of his father, what are some of the dysfunctional outcomes that can occur?

6. How do predators take advantage of such a scenario? Do you know someone to whom this has happened?

7. What are some of the stories that you've heard from your gay friends (of their childhood or adolescence) that have helped you understand their homosexual orientation?

8. What types of healing have you sought before? Were these effective and if so, in what ways? If no, what do you think kept them from being effective?

9. In what ways do you see your struggle with sexual sin a spiritual battle?

10. What would you need to do in order to gain victory over the spiritual warfare in your life?

11. At its root, is homosexual confusion primarily an emotional need or a sexual need? Explain.

12. On a spiritual level, are rebellion and idolatry involved in a person's choice to act on their homosexual inclinations? Explain.

13. Why are there fewer lesbians than homosexual men?

14. Discuss the problem of absent fathers in our culture, (both emotional and physical absence).

15. What would you think about asking Jesus, (or the Father), to restore the missing pieces of masculinity in a male homosexual who felt insecure in that area? How about asking Him to restore the missing pieces of femininity in a lesbian? Do you really believe God can and will supernaturally restore something as intangible as that?

16. If you suffer from homosexual confusion, how did not getting your emotional needs met as a child play a role in your struggle?

17. How does your struggle with homosexual confusion

relate to idolatry in your life?

18. What would you need to do to begin to forsake your idols and fully embrace God?

19. If you struggle with homosexual confusion, get alone with the Father and regularly ask Him to impart to your soul and spirit those necessary things that were missing in your childhood, and to heal those things that were damaged. Then believe that you are daily receiving those things for which you have asked, even if you do not know specifically what they are.

20. Talk about the bond that is created between two people when they have sex.

21. What soul ties have you experienced and how have the ungodly ones kept you in bondage?

22. How is someone set free from the ungodly “soul tie” that is created by sexual sin?

23. How does a person come to know that Jesus loves them?

24. When Jesus says, “I love you!” His words carry the same supernatural power as they did at Creation. Discuss your life-changing experiences with hearing the voice of God.

25. Why is healing usually a process? Why doesn’t God just zap us whole?

26. Have you ever attended a support group for an issue? What has been your experience (positive or negative)?

27. “Hate the sin, love the sinner”. Is this true? Is it possible? How can it be accomplished?

28. Ask God to identify for you situations where you have hated the sin and the sinner. Then ask Him to give you a plan and the power to love those specific people into the Kingdom of God.

29. What thoughts and/or emotions keep you from embracing the truth of God’s love for you?

30. Describe how healing has been a process in your life. What made the process of healing difficult? What made

it go smooth?

Special Segment: David's Q&A - "The Idea of God as Father"

1. Are you comfortable with the idea of God as your Father? Why or why not?

2. Write an answer(s) to this statement: "When I think of God as my Father, I feel……"

3. What is the truth about God the Father? What is He really like, according to the Scriptures?

4. How does discovering the Father's love for you change the way you think and act?

5. Get out a concordance and look up every use of the word Father (in caps). Read and meditate on each Scripture and ask God to reveal Himself to you as Father.

6. Ask God to heal the wounds inflicted by your earthly father and to remove the power of that image of fatherhood from your heart and mind.

7. If you are a father, ask God to supernaturally impart to your soul and spirit the capacity to think and act as a godly father to your children.

8. Sit before the Father and ask Him to give you the joy of being His son or daughter and to enable you to live in simple childlikeness before Him.

Title: Free from Homosexual Confusion

Speaker: Dennis Jernigan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+170d10b

1. In the opening, Sy Rogers notes that just because Dennis Jernigan is married and has nine children doesn't mean he has been healed of homosexual confusion. Why is this an accurate statement? What is the proof that someone has been or is in the process of being healed?

2. Dennis Jernigan was inspired to write the song, "Great is the Lord Almighty". Does that song remind you of a time in your own life when you were in the desert with no way out and God became your way-maker?

3. How did the attempted molestation when he was five years old affect Dennis' inner beliefs? What childhood trauma from your own life did the same thing?

4. Dennis believes that Satan goes after the creative people in the culture first, because they get the message out. What have you observed in life that would seem to confirm that statement?

5. How did overhearing his male Sunday School teacher's conversation about what he'd do to a homosexual if he found one make things even worse for Dennis?

6. How important was the influence of Dennis' grandmother to his survival and how did losing her at age 13 make things worse? Can you identify with the trauma he experienced over her death? If so, how did you make it through your trial?

7. How did the attempted molestation at age 21 by his trusted mentor at college advance his sexual identity crisis?

8. Have you ever been driven to attempt suicide, like

Dennis? What saved you from making such a horrible mistake?

9. Dennis finally decided, “This is just the way I am - the way I was born.” Can you blame him? Where could he have gone for help?

10. Discuss this great truth from Dennis: “God can handle whatever you’re hiding.”

11. Describe a traumatic or painful event that contributed to the development of your sexual struggles?

12. What messages did you get from your parents and other authority figures regarding sex and sexuality?

13. We all struggle with depression at some time. How have episodes of depression kept you in bondage to your sexual struggles?

14. How do your sexual struggles foment episodes of depression?

15. As Dennis described the love that he has for his

family, what sorts of thoughts and emotions ran through your mind and heart? If tears, why tears? If joy, why joy?

16. Has God ever spoken to you through a singer (as He did with Dennis), a teacher, a preacher, a regular person, a movie, a book, or His Word, and radically changed your life in a moment? Why is it that we hear Him and receive His transforming power in those moments when we can't at other times?

17. "It can be like Christmas", Dennis said. "Give your bondage away to God and receive what you need from Him in return". What would you like to give away to Jesus so that He can destroy sins power and presence in your life? And what would you like for Him to give you in return?

18. When someone has been set free from a bondage by the Lord, thanksgiving and great rejoicing from the heart should naturally flow back to God. Sing "There is a Fountain" along with Dennis and express to God the joy of having been set free by the power of Jesus Christ (-e.g., from sin's death sentence, if from nothing else).

19. Describe your relationship with your family.

20. How does your relationship with your family help you in your healing or interfere with your healing?

21. Who has God used in your life to reach out to you, to call you out of bondage?

22. What was it about that person that made you want to heed the call to freedom?

23. When trials and temptations come, Dennis says, he turns to his relationship with God to find out what the Lord might be trying to show him or what He might be trying to accomplish through him. How do you respond to trials and temptation?

24. Dennis suggests that victory can be achieved in part by turning our eyes from ourselves, and focusing on someone who is feeling hopeless. Though counterintuitive, why is this suggestion a good one? What has been your experience in trying this during times of trial and temptation?

25. Because God did not rescue him from his

homosexual struggle as a youth, for many years Dennis succumbed to the enemy's temptation to doubt the character of God, by believing that the Lord had forsaken him. Then one day, Dennis realized that he had been looking at the matter from the wrong perspective - that in fact, God had protected him from multiple attempts by adults to molest him. Discuss the crucial nature of faith and perspective in dealing with the events of life.

26. Do you believe that Jesus wants a relationship with you that is intimate rather than distant? Why or why not?

27. Dennis claims that knowing (-i.e., having an intimate relationship with) Jesus is worth any struggle you may go through. If you believe that, how did God bring you to such a rare and extraordinary place of faith?

28. A final word of wisdom from Dennis is this: "Focus on Him (not self) and let Him tell you who you are". Discuss the dynamics of that statement in the light of your own life struggle to come to a knowledge of who you are.

29. In Dennis' final song ("I Belong to Jesus"), he declares that he is free from sin. Since no man is sinless, what does that mean? Are you free from sin?

30. If the way you have been responding to trial and temptation has not been working, with the help of the Holy Spirit map out a new plan for handling future situations of a similar kind.

31. Sexual struggles are about meeting needs for love and affection. Discuss how besetting temptation could be a sign that you need healthy love and affection.

32. How can God be used during periods of temptation to meet those needs?

33. God also works through others to meet needs. Who do you trust and rely on to reach out to you? Who can you reach out to in healthy ways for that love and intimacy? How might the body of Christ be able to play into any deficits in these areas?

Title: Gender Identity Confusion

Speaker: Sy Rogers

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a804ff6

1. How might parental alcoholism affect the emotional and spiritual health of a child?

2. How might child molestation affect the emotional and spiritual health of a child?

3. How might the death of a parent affect the emotional and spiritual health of a child?

4. How might "labeling" by one's peers in school affect the emotional and spiritual health of a child?

5. What kinds of family environments or childhood experiences might cause a child to see performance-orientation as good and even godly?

6. How might negative experiences with authority figures (especially parents) mold a child's image of God?

7. If God is so loving and powerful, why does He allow bad things to happen to innocent people?

8. Can you think of possible reasons why God might not answer the prayers of a child struggling with homosexual confusion who is asking Him to supernaturally remove it?

9. How might anger at God channel one's life choices?

10. How does pro-gay theology catch people off guard and deceive?

11. To what degree do you live with a performance-oriented life script and how has this kept you from true intimacy with God, others and yourself?

12. How has your anger toward God affected your life choices yesterday and today?

13. What keeps you from seeing that the Enemy seeks to destroy you, and that God's love and power only seeks to heal and bring joy into your life?

14. Discuss Sy's comment: "People don't go to Hell because they're gay. They go to Hell because they're not reconciled to God on His terms through Christ".

15. Discuss Sy's comment: "The opposite of homosexuality is not heterosexuality - it's surrender to God".

16. Do you know anyone who has sought sex change surgery? If so, what have you learned from them about this struggle?

17. How is Sy's walk out of homosexuality and transsexuality similar to your walk out of other sins?

18. Discuss Sy's comment: "God opened my eyes to His reality and ceased to be a code of ethics to debate".

19. Sy describes his healing as "trading away sexual love for love in God's family". How can we make that work for those like Sy in our own church, social or work environments?

20. Discuss God's claim to forgive and cleanse us from sin. Do you really believe that promise or do you still live under a cloud of guilt?

21. What keeps you from accepting God's forgiveness of your sins? What do you need in order to receive His

grace and forgiveness? Pray and ask Father to give you these things now and receive His love and forgiveness.

22. Ask God to show you any way in which you have relegated Him and His Kingdom to a system of intellectual concepts rather than engaging Him in real ways as the lover of your soul. With that new revelation, make the appropriate changes in your way of thinking and daily living.

23. What has kept you from surrendering to God and how does that lack of surrender manifest itself in your daily relationships?

24. What keeps you from accepting God's forgiveness of your sins? What do you need in order to receive His grace and forgiveness? Pray and ask Father to give you these things now and receive His love and forgiveness.

25. How has ridicule and rejection contributed to the development of your sexual brokenness? What does ridicule and rejection do to a person's soul?

26. Has the Bible ever spoken to you as it did with Sy? Explain what happened.

27. In what ways has Sy's personal interaction with God mirrored your own? How has your relationship with God differed?

28. What about Sy's "residual mannerisms"? Do you see them as signs of incomplete healing, or can you see them in the light of the distance he has had to travel?

29. What "residual mannerisms" do you possess? How do these keep you from being completely whole? How would you want to be different?

30. How has the healthy and positive interaction with other men at his church brought healing to his sense of being accepted and identified as a heterosexual man?

31. Sy speaks of his life now as one of: "living a life where my sexuality is not my master, but God is". Discuss that as a goal common to everyone.

32. God needs to be our master rather than our sexuality. What do you do or believe that keeps you from making God truly your master?

33. Pray and ask God to be your master and submit your

sexuality to His love, mercy, and grace.

34. Discuss Sy's statement: "Change is not the goal, but the inevitable byproduct of growth."

35. Did you pray the prayer with Sy? How did it apply to your situation?

36. Examine your heart for any fears or prejudices concerning homosexuals. Ask God to cleanse them from you and to give you a new love for those who struggle in this way. Ask Him to give you opportunity to be an agent of healing for someone with this battle.

Special Segment: David's Q&A

"How the Demonic Realm Influences our Spiritual Choices?"

1. What is the nature of a demonic stronghold?

2. What allows a stronghold to develop?

3. What are some of the secret strategies of demons in

this regard?

4. What is the difference between a demonic-borne temptation and one that comes from the heart?

5. How should our response differ according to the two kinds of temptations?

6. What authority over the demonic realm does the believer possess?

7. Pray and ask the Father if you suffer from a demonic held stronghold.

8. Pray and submit yourself to Father and ask for this stronghold to be torn down through Christ's power, love, and grace.

9. Write out the Scriptures that speak of the God-given authority of the believer, carefully noting the conditions.

Title: From Abuse to Homosexuality

Speaker: Stephen Black

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4cf5bf1

1. Stephen says that the “masculine” was something fearful to him as a result of an emotional disconnect with his father and multiple instances of sexual abuse by males. How is one supposed to enter into the fullness of their masculinity or femininity?

2. As a little boy, Stephen believed that his being sexually abused was his own fault - mainly because his perpetrators told him so. What does the Bible say about the innocence of a child and the fate of those who betray or abuse them?

3. Stephen points out that many abuse victims develop guilt, shame and self-hatred as a result of experiencing pleasure during their abuse. Was Stephen guilty? Discuss these lies and how to find freedom from them.

4. Stephen says he blamed God for his homosexual attractions. He also believed that God had rejected him. Had God rejected him? Was God at fault? Was it the Fall? Original sin?

5. Stephen's turnaround came when he witnessed faithful Christians acting like Jesus. Tell us your experience of salvation and what God used to open your heart.

6. Stephen identifies the most important spiritual paths to freedom from the tyranny of sin and brokenness: forgiveness, God's Word, prayer, spiritual warfare, developing a holy fear of God, coming into a revelation of His peace, glory, love, and holiness. Discuss and share your own experience as apropos.

Title: Homosexual Confusion Redeemed

Speaker: Frank Worthen

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7630098

1. Frank shares that after his father died, his pastor told him he was a homosexual. Frank didn't even know what that meant! What do you think about the words that are spoken into our lives and how they impact our decisions?

2. Discuss your thoughts about the pastor's use of rejection as a way to control Frank. How can rejection be an effective tool to keep someone in bondage?

3. Suicide is often a means by which homosexuals decide to escape their pain and hopelessness. As Frank contemplated suicide, he heard the Spirit talk to him and challenge him to give his life to Christ. What have you heard the Spirit say to you regarding your struggles?

4. Frank states that Christ told him "I want you back". He made a decision for Christ when he was 13 years old. Discuss this early decision for Christ and his subsequent choice to live many years in the homosexual lifestyle.

5. 1 Corinthians 6:11 indicates that homosexuals can be changed. Discuss this idea in relation to the Scriptural passage indicated. How does this verse give hope?

6. Frank indicates that "father replacement search" is what homosexuality is really all about. What are your thoughts about this and how replacing one's father with the Holy Father can be a healing force.

Title: Leaving the Gay Lifestyle Behind

Speaker: Ron Smith

Video URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2hlCmS8Y_E

1. The host, Jonathan, indicates that homosexual confusion is a "conspiracy of factors" which include sexual abuse, emotional detachment from same-sex parent, dysfunctional family systems, emasculation and humiliation, overly sensitive temperament, fear of opposite sex, etc. What are your thoughts about these factors and how they impact sexual development?

2. Ron shares early in the interview about his parents and the "perception" that he had of his relationship with his father. How does perception play into the development of one's identity and sense of self?

3. At age 19, Ron found someone who was mature and gave him love and attention. He developed a co-dependent relationship with this man. And yet, both were raised as Christians. How do people reconcile living a sinful lifestyle despite knowing God?

4. As Ron sought to reconnect to Christ, his experience

with Christians included gay jokes and derogatory slurs. What about the Church do you think keeps her from loving those with homosexual confusion and what would need to change to effectively love them?

5. Ron states that there is “no distinguishing between the behavior and the person.” Why do you think this is important in helping reach the gay community?

6. Ron indicates that one can struggle with same-sex attraction but that his identity is not in having a struggle with homosexual neurosis – but as a child of God. He also indicated that his goal is not heterosexuality. What are your thoughts about this? Why do you think that this would be a healthy path for many of those leaving the lifestyle?

Title: From Homosexual to New Creation

Speaker: D.L. Foster

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c3ecbe8

1. The absence of a father created a place of emptiness

inside of Darryl. What are some other ways that the absence of a father affects people's decision-making?

2. Darryl felt early in his life that he was "different". He tried many religious behaviors (-e.g., prayer, church attendance) in order to eliminate that feeling. What do you think about how religious behaviors compliment or detract from transformation? What about those who aren't changed by God?

3. Darryl attempted to get help from church leaders who blamed him for his problem. Do you think that rejection by church leadership may have become fodder for his decision to embrace his same-sex attractions.

4. Darryl says that God didn't answer his prayer and felt that nobody cared, so he embraced the gay identity and lifestyle. What role does anger play in our decisions to engage in sexual sin? How is anger an impediment to receiving God's help?

5. Darryl reveals that his anger toward God lasted many years until it left him suicidal and hopeless. He wanted to write a letter blaming all those who hurt him and use his suicide as a means of hurting his offenders. How does

blaming others keep us trapped in the unhealthy behaviors that beset us?

6. Though he hated Christ, Darryl soon realized that Christ's love and compassion was so sacrificial that it touched him at his core. What are some other ways that the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ bring healing to our deepest hurts and trials?

7. What role do you think the years of sexual abuse played into Darryl's same-sex attraction?

8. Darryl reveals that after all the dancing, sex, orgies, etc. that when it came down to it, there was still an empty place - a void in his life. How do you fill the voids in your life in a healthy and meaningful way?

9. Darryl describes gay relationships as "significantly different" from heterosexual relationships as it relates to commitment. He says that gay relationships have no sense of commitment to relationship as is understood in heterosexual ones? What do you think accounts for this difference and how might the idea of Christ marrying the Church apply?

10. God revealed Himself to Darryl in a vision. Darryl's idea of love was performance based - that he had to earn love. But Christ told him, "I love you." He finally realized that God loved him no matter what he had done in his life. He gave his life to Christ and began his journey of healing and maturation. How does unconditional love disarm shame and guilt? How does God's peace give courage to continue on the journey of intimacy with Christ?

11. Darryl reveals that sexual abuse occurs within the Church. What are your thoughts and feelings about this reality?

12. Discuss the connection between male child sex abuse and same-sex identity and confusion.

Title: Leaving Gay Sex and Porn Behind

Speaker: Lee Preston

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3286719

1. Lee talked about how his father called him a "sissy".

Words send messages to a child's mind that can shape their entire future. What messages did you receive in childhood that shaped your life and eventual struggles?

2. Lee talks about his struggle to live a perfect life so that God would accept him. How does a performance-based mentality and theology contribute to one's bondage in sin?

3. The pastoral counselor that Lee sought for help gave him a Bible verse that called same-sex behavior sinful - that if he studied that verse, his homosexual desires would go away. Does this sort of approach bring healing? Why or why not?

4. Lee discusses his confusion with God, his feelings of hating Him, and anger for not being healed. What do you think causes someone who struggles with same-sex attraction to feel anger and hatred toward God? What would they need to do to be free from such thoughts and emotions?

5. The Holy Spirit instructed Lee to openly share his struggle in his men's small group study and was met with unconditional love and acceptance. How does

unconditional love and acceptance begin the healing process for those who struggle?

Title: Molested, Gay, Porn Addicted

Speaker: Joe Dallas

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+0c71eea

1. Joe identified sexual abuse by men as a key factor in his decision to enter the gay lifestyle. However, he also talked about his own decision to embrace it, in addition to other sexual behaviors such as masturbation and the use of pornography. What are your thoughts about homosexuality being a conscious decision? Isn't trauma, neglect and abuse at play here? Might it be all of the above? If so, at what point does a predilection toward same-sex behavior become sinful?

2. What are some of the key points and principles that stood out for you in Joe's testimony? What made these important to you?

3. Joe says that disconnecting from his parents played a

big part in his brokenness? What was your family like? How did your relationship to parents affect your decisions to engage in sexual sin? What needs were you lacking and how did sexual behavior seek to meet those needs?

4. Joe discovered that in the “gay church” he could have a relationship with God even while continuing to engage in a perverse lifestyle. Joe indicates that the gay church gives a person a sense of entitlement, that if you feel a certain way, then you are entitled to it. How is this a deception according to Joe and Scripture?

5. What Joe realized was that he idolized himself and his needs more than God. It was when he was able to seek Christ and His Kingdom first that Joe saw personal transformation. What are your idols? How do these idols prevent you from growing spiritually, relationally and emotionally?

6. Pray and confess these idols to Jesus and put Him first in your life today. Do this each day.

Title: His Life & Ministry to Homosexuals - Part 1

Speaker: Andy Comiskey

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8089626

1. What major themes in Andy's life shaped his same-sex attraction?

2. Andy talks about a relationship in which he experienced a "tender strength." He understood strong masculinity but lacked the tenderness. What does this say about what boys need in their life from their fathers or male role models?

3. Andy says that after his "quiet" conversion, his sexuality did not change but his allegiance to Christ did. Talk about salvation in this context? How is this salvation? What benefit would changing allegiances have for one's healing and recovery?

4. The Vineyard church introduced Andy to intimacy in worship. However, it was also strong on living out the Truths of God. Discuss the necessity of integrating mercy and truth in finding freedom from sexual sin, or any sin. Why do you think this is important? What happens if the

two are divided?

5. Andy found that he had a choice to stay in sexual sin or to walk in obedience. The Bible tells us that we are called to work out our salvation (Philippians 2:12-13). Discuss the fact that we need Christ to transform us, but at the same time we have to make choices to live obediently. What helps you make the choice to eschew sin for obedience? How does Christ's love compel us to live in intimacy with Him rather than to turn to sin?

Title: His Life & Ministry to Homosexuals - Part 2

Speaker: Andy Comiskey

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+18133e5

1. Andy's wife experienced burnout from helping others. How is it that we as caregivers burn out from serving others? What attitudes contribute to burnout? What are some dangers caregivers get into that inhibit their ability to serve?

2. Later, Andy's wife recognized that her attitude and

burnout was motivated by a belief that she had embraced in childhood that was negative about homosexuals? How do our beliefs and attitudes affect those who are seeking healing, deliverance and freedom?

3. The rational, well-protected mind can be an impediment to healing. We must journey into the wounded heart, which includes the emotional self. Why do many Christians fear the emotional self? Why is it safer to stay in the rational mind? What hindered you from searching out the emotional part of yourself? How does Christ's love make it safer to go into the deeper areas of our hearts?

4. One aspect of the "Living Waters" program is that they devote six weeks to flesh out the truel self as it relates to the reconciliation of our soul in the Cross of Christ. Why do you think the Cross is central to this endeavor? How does the Cross of Christ speak to our hearts and minds?

Title: Choosing Heterosexuality

Speaker: Michael Newman

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+09d3cad

1. What themes or principles in Michael's story stand out to you? What is it about them that cause them to stand out?

2. Michael talks about not fitting in as a child and feeling different from others – a feeling that was reinforced by his mother - a strong woman who tended toward criticism. Thus Michael turned to performance to gain value and meaning for his life? How do you find meaning? How does a performance-based worldview assist in giving meaning? How can it lead toward sexual struggles?

3. Michael stated that when he got involved in sexual relationships with men, it was the emotional connection, not the sexual, that was the doorway to further acting out. He was involved in church and involved in a homosexual relationship with a married man. Why do you think the emotional bond is such a strong motivation? What emotional needs did sexually acting out meet for you?

4. Michael revealed that his deep need for approval and affirmation fed into his homosexual confusion and was core to his decisions to continue in sexual sin. Discuss the idea that homosexual confusion is a wounded heart acting out rather than something genetic or in other ways biological?

5. Receiving feedback that affirmed his masculinity was essential to Michael's healing and in finding peace within. He warns the viewer against allowing others to define or label you. He says that we will find our true identity in who Christ says we are in our maleness and femaleness. How would this make a difference with one who struggles with sexual brokenness? Discuss this in light of the Genesis record where God made us male and female.

Title: Rejection & Homosexual Confusion

Speaker: Kevin Hoksbergen

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+5e7ec38

1. What themes or principles in Kevin's story stood out

for you? What about them made them stand out to you?

2. The key of Kevin's story was rejection and how this played itself out in the development of homosexual confusion. What role has rejection played in your life? How did you handle it?

3. Kevin talked about relationships where both he and the other person were in deep need of acceptance and attention. Their sexual relationship provided a sense of being accepted. However, he states that these feelings were "short lived" - meaning that their intensity eventually dissipated. How does this relate to your life and life choices? How can powerful emotional feelings inhibit our ability to make healthy and wise decisions?

4. Kevin talks about the anger that developed over time because of rejection and feelings of abandonment. What role does anger play in our woundedness? How does one use anger to justify sexual acting out?

5. Kevin talks about wanting things "my way - instantaneous." This kept him from following Christ because Christ didn't do things according to his timetable or inner desire. The fruits of the Spirit include

patience and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Talk about our need for trusting Christ for our needs and how self-control is essential to our walk in Christ.

Title: Homosexualities

Speaker: Mario Bergner

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+2d99a56

1. Mario shared that since he had an absent father, his "personhood" was shaped by females - his mother and sisters. Discuss the necessary role of the father in shaping one's masculinity and a sense of self as a heterosexual.

2. The attractions of a male homosexual are an indication of what he is trying to work through in his life. The type of attraction a gay man has is indicative of the healing that they need. What are your thoughts about this? How can this help us understand our deeper needs and find a pathway to healing?

3. As a child we have to connect to our parents as

people. However, if they remain objects then we will tend to relate to people as objects. Thus all sexual sin issues treat others as objects and not as people. How does this relate to your history? How are the objects we seek a mirror of what we are looking for in our own life?

4. Mario states that gay men experience an “empty self” - the idea that they are an empty self with a physical body. Thus they focus primarily on externals, as this is where they obtain their sense of self. How does focusing on externals affect our lives long term? Does this kind of life lead to performance-based thinking? Why or why not?

5. God told Mario He wanted to heal his “whole person” and not just his sexuality. This is an indication that homosexuality is not just about sexual brokenness but also involves healing other parts of ourselves. Other than one’s sexuality, what other parts of one’s life need healing? Pray for God’s healing not just for your sexual struggles but also for wounded emotions and for spiritual bondage issues.

Title: Jesus’ Power Over Homosexuality

Speaker: Kegan Wesley

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9a29f9b

1. Kegan talks about kids in elementary school calling him names. In response to this form of bullying, Kegan began to give himself over to homosexuality. The Scriptures talk about the words we speak being life and death to another. What words were spoken to you in your life and how did those words affect your decisions?

2. Kegan talks about how his desire for Christ's love clashed with his desire for immoral sex. We've all experienced this duality, spoken of by the Apostle Paul in Romans 7. In fact, Romans 7:25 says that it is with the mind that we serve the law of Christ and with the flesh, the law of sin. What needs to happen to establish a renewed mind?

3. Romans 8:1 tells us that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. How does a life free of being condemned by Abba set us free to serve Him, to love deeply, and mostly, to allow ourselves to be loved?

4. Kegan points out that when we sin, we should not allow the enemy to ruin us with guilt and shame. Jesus, the Redeemer, is our King and rules and reigns over our lives. So we should focus on who He is and who we are as children of God rather than on what we have done. This focus on entering into His presence, (running to Him rather than from Him), allows for repentance and for healing to take place. Describe a time when you found this true in your life.

Title: Testimony of a Male Prostitute

Speaker: David Kyle Foster

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9d49182

1. In what ways have you prayed to God to remove some aspect of your life only to find that it was not removed as you had hoped? How did this affect you?

2. Do you have any non-sexual relationships with same-sex people? Do you find this to be a struggle for you? If yes, what/who do you think is behind this struggle?

3. How has God played a part in your healing at this point in your life?

4. Describe how pride has kept you from growing/ healing emotionally and spiritually. How is pride overcome in someone's life?

5. How have you kept the Lord secondary to your healing and how has this hindered the process?

6. What traits does God have as a loving and caring Counselor and how can these traits help you in your growth?

7. How does one develop intimacy with God? (See John 8:58; 10:30; 10:38; 14:9-10; 17:1, 20-22; Romans 9:5; Colossians 1:15; 2:9; Hebrews 1:3, 8).

8. What role does anger and shame play in keeping you in bondage to your sexual brokenness?

9. In what ways have you tried to overcome your sexual brokenness on your own? How did this work for you and what did you learn from such attempts?

10. What areas of your life keep you from reaching out to God as a loving Father?

11. Living in a grace-filled life rather than a performance-based life is key to healing. What would you need to do differently to begin allowing yourself to live intimately with God in a life of grace?

12. What was your relationship with your earthly father like and how do you think it shaped who you are today?

13. What one aspect of our loving heavenly Father would you like to develop in yourself and what would you do differently to enable this to happen?

14. How has repeated attempts to overcome your sexual brokenness affected you?

15. What about your life keeps you from believing that you can live a life in grace and love?

16. What one thing can you do differently today that will move you towards living in God's grace, love and mercy? List one to two action steps to being this change.

17. How would you describe your personality and how does your temperament affect the way you receive love from others and God?

18. In what way did male connection in early childhood, or the lack thereof, positively or negatively affect your life and life choices?

19. List any labels placed upon you by others and how each of these labels affected you then and now.

20. What prayers have you prayed in the past that were not answered? What do you think kept them from being answered in the way you desired? +link+ (See our e-booklet for a detailed look on why some prayers aren't answered).

+link+ 21. List at least five words that would describe how you feel about yourself? How do these adjectives help or hinder your ability to be open, vulnerable, and accepting of yourself and others?

22. What new adjectives would you like to describe you? What can you do to begin to live out this new identity?

23. What religious disciplines have you tried to overcome your sexual brokenness? How did these work for you?

24. Compare and contrast your healthy and unhealthy relationships with your father, or other men.

25. How do your healthy relationships with men parallel your relationship with God the Father?

26. How has your ability to be intimate (close, connected, bonded) with others been helped or hindered by your relationship with your earthly father?

27. What has kept you from being set free in the past and what do you need to do differently to begin being free?

28. In David's life, anger at God was a major cause of his problems. How might that have been overcome?

29. Most sexually bound people don't believe that "God wants to cleanse and heal sexually broken people - no matter how broken." How can this unbelief be overcome in someone's life?

30. David believed he had sinned too greatly to be forgiven. Is that even possible?

31. A pastor suggested that David let God set Him free from his bondages rather than trying to do it himself. How does that work?

32. David suggested that there was a difference between deliverance from the power of sin and the healing of his brokenness. What did he mean by that? Have you experienced a similar difference in your own life?

33. Although the majority of his healing from sexual bondage and brokenness was accomplished in seven years, why has the need for continual healing remained? What is God's purpose in making the sanctification process last the entire length of our earthly lives?

34. Does your story include the "laying out of your deep heart before God and working it out with Him" that David describes? What does God do during such times that brings healing, freedom and transformation?

35. Has God used your fallen background to lead others to freedom in Christ?

36. David claims that a primary focus on intimacy with God rather than on our problems is what brings freedom and change. Have you found that to be true? How does this break the bondage of performance-orientation?

37. Is it true that God never forsakes a believer, even if he/she fails repeatedly?

38. Discuss David's comment: "God brings healing through grace and by loving you into the Kingdom." How does that work?

39. Unpack the buried treasure found in 2 Peter 1:3-4.

Special Segment: 700 Club Video

1. What elements of David's past can you or friends of yours personally identify with?

2. The movies were "a world where people loved each other and there was always a happy ending". Share how you use fantasy and other unreal worlds to escape the harsh realities of life.

3. What happens when a child (boy or girl) misses out on the necessary love, affirmation and healthy role-modeling of a father?

4. What are some of the other things that contributed to the development of David's homosexual confusion?

5. What part did self-hatred play in the development of David's bondage to addictive behaviors? Does this excuse the choices that he made?

6. How does God's question of David in the Garden of Gethsemene ("Who proved His love for you?") answer the dilemma of many wounded individuals?

7. Discuss David's final statement in the piece: "No matter how perverse your life has been, you can be the first of a thousand generations of righteous if you will just turn to God!"

8. How would you reach out to a radically broken person like David?

9. If someone you know was unloved or unaffirmed as a child, ask God to give you ideas for affirming them.

10. Ask God to provide you with opportunities to begin loving your friends and relatives in tangible ways.

Special Segment: David's Q&A - "The Greatest Barrier to Healing"

1. Why is self-effort such a impenetrable barrier to being healed or set free from a bondage?

2. What is it about fallen man that makes it so difficult to forsake our independence and to give up control to God?

3. What does it mean to become like a child? What does it look like? Why is becoming like a child so very important yet so very difficult?

4. What does it look like to make the Lord our primary counselor?

5. Why is putting our focus on the Lord instead of our problems so difficult? Describe your struggle in this area?

Title: Homosexual Confusion – Part 1

Speakers: David Kyle Foster & Jayson Graves

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c5f671c

1. Jayson speaks of a "conditioned response of arousal" caused by masturbation and pornography. Discuss how this might work not only in homosexual desire, but heterosexual as well.

2. Jayson describes how jealousy of other boys became eroticized at the sight of them in the shower at school. Discuss the way visual queues intensify already existing aberrant desires.

3. David claims that the development of homosexual confusion usually involves a conspiracy of factors such as…….

- a failure to emotionally bond with a father who was harsh and emotionally distant

- the confusion of the actions of his pastor-father with his image of God

- a sensitive temperament

- a lack of love and affirmation by significant people in his life

- narcissism

- a lack of role modeling in how to be a man

- dysfunctional ancestral traits that have created family-line curses

- the lack of a genuine relationship with God

- sins of the father passed down through 3-4 generations

- incidents that generated a fear of the opposite sex

- the sin nature that everyone shares

- the envy, idolatry and consequent lust that are a result

of worshipping the creature rather than the Creator

- attempts to fix himself rather than seeking God for help, and other possible factors

Discuss these issues as they relate to your own life, whether homosexual or not.

4. David describes “affirmation disorder” as one of the most pervasive disorders in the world today. What is it and how might it affect brokenness issues of all kinds?

5. David describes entering into a secret examination of other males in order to discover what was missing in him as a male. Discuss how this “secret examination” might develop into homosexual desire.

Title: Homosexual Confusion – Part 2

Speakers: David Kyle Foster & Jayson Graves

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+963f6b2

1. David describes numerous steps on the path to healing and transformation. They include:

- the impartation of affirmation from God the Father through an intimate relationship with Him

- fellowship with others found in a healthy local church and other gatherings of believers

- the pursuit of spirit-led goals that bear fruit and thereby communicate value and purpose

- dealing with roots of anger and the learning of forgiveness

- addressing arrested emotional development and the restarting of healthy emotional growth

- seeking God to impart the broken developmental pieces that went missing

- learning to believe that God is answering such prayers

- correction of their belief system about God, love, self,

doubt, salvation, a “victim” mentality, etc.

- prayer to break family-line curses

- a fear of intimacy and the seeking of false intimacy through pornography and other means

- guarding and renewing the heart and mind

- dealing with immature response-patterns to pain and stress and learning how to partner with God to institute godly patterns on a daily basis

- dealing with intellectual idolatry

- genuinely repenting of a love of sin and receiving by faith a love for holiness

- embracing God’s exhortation to participate in the sufferings of Christ and thereby to become more like Him in His death

- renouncing “performance orientation” in order to live from God’s power over sin

- removing things from your life that fuel sinful life patterns

- renouncing self-hatred and learning how to believe in and live from God's love for you

- seeking healing for self-obsession and narcissism

- renouncing a slavery to feelings and learning how to believe in and follow every word that comes from the mouth of God

- believing in and receiving a transformation of the will through the experience of God's love

- other issues such as anger at God, "familiar" spirits, genuine repentance, intimate worship of God

Discuss some of these issues and how they might apply in your own life.

2. The Bible teaches that love is commitment and sacrifice, not feelings. Discuss the true nature of love and the false nature of what the world calls love.

3. What are some of the factors that cause the healing and transformation process to vary from person to person? Can some homosexuals receive a complete healing for their homosexual confusion quickly? Is that the common experience? Why the difference?

4. How does ministry to male homosexuals differ from ministry to female homosexuals?

Title: Stumbling Toward Freedom from Homosexuality

Speaker: Thom Hunter

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b307173

1. Thom says that he felt a distance from his father, who favored his older brother. Then at the age of seven, his father abandoned the family. What can this or any father-wound do to a boy's sense of masculinity and acceptability among other males? Share your experience of being rejected or wounded by your father and the damage that that caused.

2. What sort of damage occurs when, like Thom, your family doesn't believe your report and accuses you of lying?

3. Thom's scoutmaster groomed him by becoming a substitute father figure, making him vulnerable to being sexually abused. What are some other ways that sexual predators groom boys in preparation for sexually abusing them?

4. If it has been healed, share how God has healed your father-wound, either in part or in whole.

5. If the Lord has released you to do so and you were sexually abused as a boy or teen, share the damage that that did to you and the journey of healing that you have been going through. (If appropriate, some of the members of the group should pray over him and affirm him in his masculinity).

6. Thom told his new wife that he had a background of being attracted to men. She accepted the confession of his past, assuming that it was in the past forever. What she didn't know was that her husband continued to live an unfaithful, homosexual life throughout the marriage.

What are some things that a prospective wife should do before marrying a man whose background includes same-sex attraction or porn addiction?

7. Thom believed that his secret trysts at rests stops wouldn't hurt anybody. What are some ways that such behavior does hurt others (and themselves)?

8. Thom says he put at risk everything - reputation, family, his faith, the church where he served and the Word of God. What goes on inside a person that motivates them to live such a deceptive life even when they know full well that it is wrong at every level?

9. What should be done with a church leader who gets arrested for immoral behavior and why?

Title: Following Christ to Freedom from Homosexuality

Speaker: Dean Bailey

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b6728de

1. Dean says that his father's alcoholism gave him a distorted view of love, which he believed could be won by meeting his father's expectations. Failure to do so caused him to feel as though he had lost his father's love. What exactly is the biblical definition of love and how does it play itself out in real life?

2. Dean says that he became his mother's emotional outlet. How might this evolve into a disconnect with the masculine and a bonding with the feminine? How might this distort a boy's view of women and engender a sense of feeling different from other boys?

3. Dean's father abused his mom when he was drunk. How might that have produced an aversion to the masculine and a bonding with the feminine?

4. How did Dean's family experiences set him up to agree to sexual relations with a popular boy when he was nine years old?

5. Getting saved didn't eliminate Dean's attraction to other males. What does a person do in that situation?

6. Dean says that one of his biggest mistakes was trying

to deal with his same-sex attractions all by himself. What should he have done instead?

7. Dean says that healing came through natural interactions with other men more so than attacking the homosexual issue directly. He also says that seeking after Jesus Christ rather than seeking after heterosexuality was the right way to go. Discuss.

Masturbation

Title: Freedom from Porn & Masturbation

Speaker: Rob Jackson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8c54700

1. What information presented by Rob impacted you the most? What was it about this information that made that impact?

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18 states that sexual sin is against one's own body. Brain research is proving that pornography and masturbation affect the brain in negative ways. Discuss how science is proving how unhealthy sexuality is a "sin" against one's physical body?

3. 1 Peter 2:11 tells us that sinful desires war against your soul. What does this mean and in what ways does it contrast with Paul's statement that it wars against the

body?

4. Rob talks about the spiritual warfare behind pornography and masturbation. He indicates that spiritual warfare, or demonization as he calls it, is a real possibility. How does this fact affect how one seeks healing? What does this say about healing from sexual bondage and brokenness being more than just a psychological or physical problem?

5. Jesus said that lusting after someone in the heart is a sin - not just the act. What is the sin behind masturbation? When does temptation turn into sin?

6. Rob makes it clear that the treatment of sexual addiction cannot be limited to only one realm - spirit, soul, or body. But rather, it must be an integration of the three. How would someone who approaches sexual addition as being purely a sin issue suggest healing? How can this help or hinder recovery?

7. What role does the Holy Spirit play in healing according to Rob? What are your thoughts about this? How has Christ helped you in your healing?

Pornography/Sex Addiction in Females

Title: Female Sexual Addiction - Part 1

Speaker: Marnie Ferree

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8d3c2ee

1. Discuss Christine's statistics on sexually active girls. What do you think has caused this skyrocketing experimentation among our nations youth?

2. What do you think Marnie meant by saying "I didn't choose sex addiction, sex addiction chose me"?

3. Thinking about Marnie's statement regarding not choosing sex addiction, how does this relate to your life experience?

4. Because of the way her abuser groomed her from the

age of five, Marnie believed that sex and love were the same thing. If applicable, how has this message been communicated in your life, and in the culture at large?

5. Marnie's abuser was a father figure and a family friend who came into her life after the death of her mother, offering comfort and a semblance of love. How do child molesters get to a point (mentally, emotionally and spiritually) where they can victimize a child as young as that with little to no apparent conscience?

6. Because of her exposure to Christianity through her pastor father, Marnie knew that what she was doing was wrong, resulting in an internal belief that she was a whore. Describe the damage that such a belief can produce.

7. Marnie continued in a sexual relationship with her abuser until she was 35. How can someone be so oblivious to their abuse and become so complicitous in furthering its sinful aftermath?

8. Discuss how sexual addiction (or bondage in general) can result from childhood sexual abuse. Include discussion on the varying paths it can take (-e.g.,

prostitution, nymphomania, satyriasis, pedophilia, etc.).

9. Marnie describes the first step on her journey of recovery as confession (admitting the sin in her life). What are the biblical steps that would follow?

10. How do you relate the concepts of sex and love? How do they not relate to you?

11. What messages (-i.e., “I am sick. I am a whore.” etc.) have you given yourself internally when thinking about your sexual choices?

12. Marnie states that many women, because they do not like the sexual bondage they are in, don’t recognize themselves to be trapped in sexual addiction. She says that the more accurate term would be “relationship addiction” or “intimacy disorder”. True?

13. According to Marnie, what is “intimacy”? Do you agree? What can you add to her definition?

14. If the addict hides his or her brokenness out of fear of rejection and uses sex as a substitute for real intimacy (or relationship), what is the way of escape?

15. What are the similarities and differences between male and female sex addiction? Are the terms “love addiction” and “romance addiction” applicable in some cases?

16. Marnie believes that with over one third of female sex addicts addicted to visual pornography today, culture has been rewiring female brains to respond to visual stimuli in the same way that men have responded for years. Do you agree? Why or why not?

17. Pseudo-relational chat rooms and cyber-sex contact possibilities are particularly compelling to women, according to Marnie. Is this consistent with other behavioral differences already recognized in women?

18. What is Marnie’s scriptural prescription for the transformation of the sex addict?

19. Discuss these additional recommendations:

• learning about true intimacy

• abstinence

• changing thoughts and beliefs about sex

• changing behavior

20. How did Marnie's strict church environment, the death of her mother at age three, and her ongoing sexual abuse from the age of five, contribute to her slide into sexually addictive behavior?

21. Marnie says that the thing that turned her around was coming to believe, (from the heart, not just the head), that God loved her. Discuss this powerful dynamic.

22. Marnie also says that God imparted to her a love for His Word that she had never had before. How does a person obtain such an impartation? What might be some of the prerequisites for receiving such a gift?

23. Write out your understanding of intimacy based on your childhood experiences.

24. Write out your understanding of intimacy based on what is true and good.

25. What shifts would you have to make to accept a healthy understanding of intimacy in order to replace the false intimacy message of the past?

26. How would intimacy with our Heavenly Father change your ability to be intimate with yourself and others in healthy and mature ways?

Special Segment: Sy Roger's "My Thoughts About That"

"Bad Girls & God's Grace"

1. Discuss Sy's take on the story of Rahab the prostitute. What lessons can we all learn from her story?

2. In relating the biblical story of Samson, Sy notes that "choices have consequences". What sort of parallels can you draw from Samson's life and the world you live in today?

3. At the center of King David's love story with God are his acts of adultery and conspiracy to commit murder. What lessons can we mine in a modern world that often champions promiscuity, adultery and the murder of its

children in the womb?

4. What can we learn from the life of Mary Magdalene, (Jesus cast seven demons from her), whether she was a prostitute or not (the history being a little shaky on the matter)?

5. The woman caught in adultery got caught. Other than that detail, how does her story parallel your own? What was the genius behind the way Jesus responded to her?

6. The woman at the well can also be seen as a “type” of a Gentile world trapped in man-made religion, sin and darkness that wants to see the real thing. Discuss.

7. What other sins have you committed that were meant to hide your sexual sins?

8. How does it make you feel to know that God used people with sexual struggles to advance His Kingdom work?

9. What does grace say to your “bad” side?

10. Accept the fact that you have sexual struggles and ask the Father's grace to cover your shame and guilt.

Title: Female Sexual Addiction - Part 2

Speaker: Marnie Ferree

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7a72b28

1. According to Marnie, the term "sex addiction" is an umbrella term that covers a number of issues. What are some of those other issues?

2. If sex addiction is a matter of trying to get non-sexual needs met in a sexual way, what are those non-sexual needs and how should they be met?

3. Marnie says that sex addiction is part drug addiction. Explain the neurochemistry of the addiction.

4. What are some of the "triggers" in a person's life that might set them off into addictive "acting out"?

5. How do we distinguish between legitimate loneliness, sadness or self-hatred borne from deception and maltreatment, (which requires healing), and toxic self-pity (which requires repentance)?

6. According to Marnie, why is online pornography known as the “crack cocaine” of sex addiction?

7. Discuss the statement: “If recovery is all about the things I don’t do (deprivation), it won’t work.” What is a more effective approach to healing and sobriety?

8. If establishing healthy connections with men and women is a necessary part of recovery, how does someone who has never had such connections learn to make them?

9. What non-sexual needs has your sexual behavior attempted to meet?

10. The desire to bond to other humans is a biologically based need given to us by God. In what ways does your sexual sin prevent such an emotionally and physically deep connection from occurring?

11. Ask God to show you the “triggers” in your life that set off addictive behavior. Write them down and ask God to show you how to change, remove or minimize the presence of such triggers in your daily life.

12. Start a list of biblically forbidden things or behaviors that you have seen as deprivations. Then ask God to show you the truth about those things. Praise Him! Then start a list of things that God has blessed you with, noting the eternal, life-giving and positive provision that they represent.

13. Marnie suggests that it is in our sexuality, (-e.g., knowing and being known; opening ourselves to accept something into ourselves), where we are most connected to our spirituality. Can the connection between human sexuality in the physical realm, expressed in the marriage covenant through marital faithfulness, etc., and intimacy with God in the spiritual realm be found in Scripture?

14. Marnie believes that the way to achieve intimacy with God is by developing intimacy with others. Is this always true? What additional paths might there be?

15. In her friend's loving response to her confession of sin, Marnie encountered unconditional grace for the first time. As a preacher's kid, why did it take so long to encounter grace? Discuss the power that grace has to change a person's life.

16. Marnie says she felt God's presence most keenly in a community of grace. What can we do differently that will help create grace-filled churches like that?

17. In a way that seems counter-intuitive, it was God's unconditional love that created a desire for obedience in her. Is the Church getting this yet? What can we do to spread this message?

18. Discuss how legalistic religious systems - those that impose rules without relationships, rules without love, and/or rules without good reason - actually create the ground for addictive behavior. Discuss also the greatest fear of a religious system: "If we take away the rules, if we give people too much grace, they're going to run rampant with sin!"

19. If guilt and toxic shame enslave people, how can we uphold the laws of God (which are good) without

sending people into addictive “acting out”?

20. Marnie suggests that it is brokenness that creates the shift into the healing of relationships. Describe any experiences you may have had with this truth. Why is brokenness such a powerful key to change?

21. Do a word study on God as “Husband” and as “Bridegroom”. Ask God to deepen your understanding and appreciation of the fact that you were created to be His Bride for all eternity. (For more detail on this subject, read our free e-booklet called The Divine Marriage).

22. What role does toxic shame play in your daily life and relationships and how does this toxicity prevent you from connecting to God and others?

23. What role has pornography played in your life and how does it relate to your desire to feel loved and accepted?

24. Healthy support groups have boundaries, accountability, and are usually focused on the solution rather than the problem. Discuss these parameters and

add more if appropriate. Do you have anything like this at your church?

25. Discuss the pros and cons of the existing “12-Step” support group model. How can it be brought more in line with the promises of Scripture for the believer?

26. Describe your involvement in a 12-step recovery program. Did it help you to develop healthy relationships?

27. What role does recovery in community play in understanding the Church and God’s love?

28. List four people with whom you have unhealthy boundaries. How do these unhealthy boundaries affect your ability to be whole and mature?

Special Segment: Sy Roger’s “My Thoughts About That”

“Common Sexual Problems in God’s Family”

1. Sy sees adultery as a matter of living by feelings

rather than by commitments. Discuss this observation as well as the larger “behind the scenes” picture of adultery in the family of God.

2. Sy says that premarital sex among believers these days is the result of a generation that feels entitled to engage in non-coital sexual behavior. They see “making out” as harmless and natural rather than the foreplay that it is. How have they gotten this message and what should parents and the Church do to better educate and exhort them to holiness?

3. Discuss the sex-charged environment that young people are raised in today. If it’s true that they’ve seen 11,000 hours of sex-saturated TV by the age of 16, what can parents do to counter such an incredibly powerful influence?

4. Sy notes that the ultimate problem is that our kids (parents, too?) are listening to (and heeding) world-culture rather than God-culture. How can that be changed?

5. In what ways do you live by feelings?

6. Why would living this way be detrimental to you and others?

Pornography/Sex Addiction in Males

Title: Father Wounds & Sexuality - Part 1

Speaker: Jack Frost

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4084293

1. How does a father-wound affect a growing child's sense of wellbeing?

2. According to Jack Frost, what are the three ways in which a child needs love to be communicated?

3. How did Jack describe the difference between expressed love and a claim of love?

4. What happens to a child when they don't receive love and affirmation?

5. Did you grow up with a sense of being defective, unloved or unacceptable? How did that play itself out in your beliefs and actions?

6. Jack claims that a lack of love and affirmation during childhood affects our emotions, sexuality and image of God. In what ways and to what degree?

7. Why does an unconscious anger at God often develop from a life devoid of love and affirmation?

8. What are the various ways that people medicate the pain involved in this? In what ways did this happen in your life?

9. Describe your relationship with your earthly father. What needs were met as a child, and what needs were not met? (Hint: Think in terms of needs for affection, attention, acceptance, affirmation, approval, security, support, encouragement, etc.)

10. Describe the love of your father in terms of it being expressed vs it being claimed. What was the result of this type of love on your life and relationships?

11. If applicable, how did the lack of emotional love and nurture affect your sexual development and image of yourself?

12. If applicable, how did the lack of affectionate and tender love in childhood manifest itself in your relationship with God?

13. How does a message of judgment worsen a person who is already steeped in self-hatred?

14. How important is it for such a person to see God reaching out to them rather than as an angry judge?

15. Discuss the biblical teaching on law and grace and how they operate today.

16. Law creates guilt, which creates shame and fear, which leads to self-medication and hiding. What is God's provision to overturn this cycle?

17. How might a chronic shame/self-hatred problem lead to an addiction to masturbation? What enables a person to walk free from such bondage?

18. Hyper-religious activity is often a reaction to the shame, self-hatred and failure that we feel, resulting in a performance orientation that inevitably leads to more failure, shame and self-hatred. Have you observed this in your own life or that of your church family?

19. Discuss Jack Frost's statement: "God doesn't want servants and slaves in His house. He wants us to curl up in His arms as sons and daughters."

20. Discuss Jack Frost's statement: "Satan will try to keep us busy doing good things if it will keep us from finding rest and peace in God."

21. Explain how judgment has been a part of your life and its contribution to any sexual brokenness issues.

22. How does grace overcome judgment and how can you incorporate God's grace into your life for healing?

23. How will living as a son/daughter to Abba Father make a difference in your life?

24. What difference will it make in your sense of wellbeing, worth and value?

25. Has an experience of God's love brought peace in your search for identity? Why or why not? What is the way forward?

26. Jack says that renewing the mind is only fifty percent of it. The Holy Spirit pouring God's love abroad in our hearts is the rest (Romans 5:5). In other words, it is vital that we position our hearts to receive God's love in every core area of need. Have you ever thought to do this? Discuss.

27. Have you ever had a supernatural impartation like this? What was the result?

28. Discuss Jack's description of how an encounter with the Father's love helped him.

29. Jack claims that by seeking and experiencing such an encounter with the Father, a person's faith will finally move from their head to their heart. True?

30. Discuss the common problem of a disconnect between the head and heart. What does it look like and how do we end up that way? Describe your struggle with it (and victory, if applicable).

31. What in your life and/or heart keeps you from receiving an impartation of Father's love?

32. What role does guilt and shame play in failing to receive this love fully?

33. What would you need to do differently in order to move into an experience of grace and love from the Father?

Title: Father Wounds & Sexuality - Part 2

Speaker: Jack Frost

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+ab85fd7

1. How is our view of God the Father affected by our view of our earthly father's love? Describe how your view of God the Father was affected (positively or negatively) by your father (or the absence of a father). Include discussion of how a child's perception of his or her father's love can sometimes be inaccurate yet just as damaging.

2. What may be happening when someone with 20-30 years of Christianity under his or her belt suddenly has an emotional and spiritual meltdown? Include a discussion of the difference between physical and spiritual maturity.

3. Jack suggests that we need to forsake “agenda-driven relationships” with God and others. He says we need to stop valuing God for what He can do for us and become the source of God’s love for others (-i.e., going from “Give me, give me!” to “Change me, change me!”). Discuss this idea and how it can be achieved.

4. Discuss Jack’s idea that people don’t change because of self-assertion, (meaning trying to pray and do enough to get God to love them), and that it is okay not to be okay. He suggests we make peace with our brokenness. What does he mean by this and where are such ideas found in the Bible?

5. What does it mean to become “childlike” so as to enter the Kingdom of God?

6. Jack claims that when he is strong, he cannot find God’s love, but when he is weak, God’s love pours in and

heals him from the effects of life's traumas. Where are these ideas found in Scripture? What has your experience been in this area?

7. Jack describes as very important the idea of "positioning your heart". What does he mean by this and what has your experience been in this regard?

8. Love will find you in weakness - not in strength. What keeps you from humility and an admission of dependency?

9. Many who were wounded deeply in childhood find it hard to grow emotionally. Emotional development is crucial to healthy spiritual development. How old do you FEEL at times and what do you think this means about you?

10. To be childlike is not the same thing as feeling that you have not grown up emotionally. How is being childlike in the biblical sense different from the wounded version?

11. Jack claims: "Healing doesn't come until trust is restored". Why is that?

12. Why did Jack cry even though he had already reconciled with his father?

13. Jack stated that after spending 45 minutes in the presence of Father's love, he was healed of over 15 years of hidden emotional pain. Share and discuss your own stories of being healed in this fashion.

14. According to Jack Frost, what is "hidden core pain" and why can't it be cast out or healed in a brief space of time?

15. Jack stated that at some level, everyone has a fear of trusting God and others, a fear of being rejected and abandoned by God and others, and a fear of opening their hearts to God and others. Discuss the source of such fears as well as God's remedy.

16. When hidden core pain first emerges from the subconscious, why is anger usually the first response?

17. How has the lack of trust in others, yourself and/or God kept you from healing?

18. When have you experienced being in the Father's

love? What was this experience like for you? If applicable, what do you think kept you from a complete healing?

19. Is anger your first response to situations that are unpleasant? What do you think is behind this anger?

20. Describe your hidden core pain and any revelation that God has given you about it.

21. According to Jack Frost, how do the “Father’s Love Encounters” at Shiloh Place Ministries work?

22. Have you ever attended anything like them? If so, describe your experience.

23. Were you raised in a family like Jack’s or some other hurtful environment? What happened as a result?

24. What is the proof of God’s love in the midst of our traumas?

25. Have you ever surrendered to God’s love?

26. How would you know that you were in the midst of Abba Father's love?

27. What do you think it would feel like and how do you think this experience would lend itself to your healing?

28. Many in recovery have not surrendered to God's love but to other things? Identify five things you have surrendered to (such as anger, pride, etc.).

29. What would have to happen in order for you to surrender into Father's loving embrace?

Title: Free from Porn/Strip Clubs

Speaker: Matthew Stark

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9be72b3

1. Discuss the development of today's cultural addiction to pornography starting with the sexual revolution of the 1960s. Would the "Founding Fathers" of this nation really have approved of this application of the concept of

“free speech”?

2. Biblically and culturally, how can one make sense out of the fact that porn predators worldwide have almost carte blanche to seduce and destroy the innocence of our children at even the youngest of ages (via the Internet, TV, movies, etc.) with very little opposition from the public?

3. When you saw the images of the demonstrators in front of “Hustler Hollywood” in Nashville, what thoughts ran through your mind?

4. Matthew was the child of an itinerant evangelist. He was in church every day, but never embraced the faith as his own. Has there ever been a period in your life where your faith died in you or where you discovered that it was nothing but a cultural shell?

5. The transition from living the faith of your father or mother to living a faith of your own can be a rocky one. How is such a transition made?

6. Matthew describes unfair treatment of his evangelist father by various churches, which led him to conclude:

“If this is Christianity then I don’t want to have anything to do with it!” Have you ever embraced the things of the world because of the hypocrisy of so-called believers? If so, how did God bring you back?

7. Matthew describes his addiction to marijuana with these words: “I loved it. It was my friend.” Considering his thoughts, beliefs and experiences up until then, what do you think it was about the effects of marijuana that bound his heart to it in such a powerful way?

8. What has been your experience with Christians and how has this shaped your view of the Church and God?

9. Addictions are relationships in themselves – a relationship to an object or event. Addicts get their needs for intimacy and closeness temporarily met through their addiction. How have you bonded to your addictions and what emotional needs do you think they meet for you?

10. Have you committed your life to Christ? Why or why not?

11. If you answered NO to the above, what keeps you

from accepting His love and grace through His sacrificial gift on the Cross?

12. Matthew declares that a spirit of prostitution has been released upon our land. Have you encountered evidence of that? How might the history of a city or area play into such lingering demonic strongholds?

13. At one point, Matthew saw a demon get sucked out of his room when he cried out “Jesus!” Ever had an experience of that kind?

14. Matthew’s father saw his son dying from AIDS in a prophetic dream and went and rescued him. Discuss this level of spiritual warfare and the many ways (seen and unseen) that God helps us in our time of need.

15. At certain points in his journey back to Christ, pastors and evangelists were led to say things to Matthew like: “You’re supposed to be dead!” and “God’s got a purpose and plan for your life!” How do such prophetic words work in the life of a prodigal?

16. Matthew describes the battle for his soul as a war that was raging inside. In your journey to faith, do you

remember there being such a visceral war in your soul and spirit? If not, what might it have been about Matthew's story that made the battle in the heavenlies so felt and so fierce?

17. Matthew tells the story of giving his testimony at a church and the power of God falling in the room. Have you ever been in a meeting where that happened? Describe what went on.

18. How does spiritual warfare affect your life and struggles with sexual issues?

19. We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against spiritual wickedness. How will recognizing your struggle as a spiritual battle, (not just an emotional one), make a difference in your journey to healing?

20. If Satan was defeated at Calvary and Christ was victorious, how can this truth apply to your struggles and growth?

21. Pray and ask Abba Father to show you any areas of spiritual ground given to the enemy and claim that area of your life back in the name of Jesus.

22. If you are not yet a believer, ask Christ to come into your heart, repent of your sins, and receive Him as Savior, Lord, Healer, and Father.

23. According to Matthew Stark, Nashville has more porn stores and strip clubs per capita than any other American city. It also has more churches per capita than any other American city. Discuss how this seeming contradiction can occur.

24. Even after years of sexual immorality and drugs, Matthew said that feeling God's love was better than anything he had ever experienced. Do you have a similar testimony?

25. Describe the difference between the false intimacy of the world and the real intimacy available in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

26. Matthew was an admitted womanizer, porn addict, gang-banger and drug dealer. Not only that, he had been raised in a Christian home and knew better. How could God love a person like that?

27. Why has the Church been afraid to address

pornography and homosexuality in a redemptive fashion? Why has the Church mistreated such people and driven them away?

28. Is God raising up a “Daniel” or a “Joseph” generation in our day? What does that mean and what will that look like?

29. Do you want to be a part of such a move of God? Why or why not? If yes, what are you going to do about it?

30. Where have you pursued feelings of love and intimacy?

31. How did these pursuits fulfill and/or satisfy your needs for connection to God and others?

32. Based on your life experience(s), in what relationships have you felt most loved and accepted? (Note: this could also include a relationship to an addiction, not just to people).

33. Are you ready for Abba Father to give you His pure love? If yes, prepare your heart to receive it by asking

God the Father to give you insights into yourself and to reveal to you those things that block you.

Title: Journal of a Sex Addict - Part 1

Speaker: Jonathan Daugherty

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+075a0aa

1. Jonathan thinks of sexual addiction as “self in the center and that everything else revolves around the self.” What are your thoughts about this description?

2. Jonathan talks about how fear kept him from telling others about his growing use of pornography. What role has fear played in your struggles and how has fear kept you in bondage to those struggles?

3. Jonathan’s fear led to what he described as “image building:” a false identity to keep others from knowing about his growing addiction. What image have you built and how has this image helped and/or hurt you?

4. Jonathan talks about how God never wanted anyone to live a divided life. We know that a house divided will not stand. How are these two ideas related to the life of an addict?

5. Stress and anxiety can trigger one's addictive nature into action. What are the stressors that trigger you into your addiction?

6. Jonathan states that "confession alone doesn't change everything" and that his addiction continued. What benefit does confession provide for the addict?

7. Jonathan talks about the despair that an addiction can lead one into. How has helplessness and/or despair affected you in your journey with your addiction?

Title: Journal of a Sex Addict - Part 2

Speaker: Jonathan Daugherty

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+14ad45f

1. “Confession and repentance” are necessary for change to take place. How are these different? Why are both essential?

2. What do you think keeps people from confession and repentance? How does the Cross of Christ assist in confession and repentance?

3. Jonathan talks about how his view of God - angry and disappointed in him - was a hindrance in turning to Christ for healing. How does one’s view of God prevent or help our healing? List the traits of God that you can think of mentioned in Scripture.

4. Read Galatians 5:16. How does this verse affirm that we need to walk in community?

Title: Foundations of Sex Addiction

Speaker: Russell Willingham

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+ff52c52

1. Russell points out that sex addiction is fundamentally a problem of intimacy, identity, and arrested development. Discuss these as you think they relate to sexual addiction.

2. Sex addiction is commonly related to abuse and neglect/abandonment? How do either of these relate to your journey in life and how did you fill the hole that abuse and neglect left in your heart?

3. Neglect and abuse play an important part in our sense of identity. They create self-talk that tends to be negative and self-defeating. How does faith in Christ and God's Word help in this battle? What verses in Scripture can you use to help change your negative self-talk?

4. Russell indicates that we are not accustomed to listening to the voice of Christ, but to the negative self-talk voice. What do you think keeps us from listening to Christ's voice? How would you know when His Spirit is speaking to you?

5. "Power is not about feeling, power is a reality." This is a quote by Russell regarding walking in faith and power even if we do not feel it. What are your thoughts about

this idea?

6. Support groups can be key to healing from sex addiction. James 5:16 describes a need for others in our healing. What keeps people from joining groups and what benefit does a support group have for one's healing and recovery?

Title: Wired for Intimacy

Speaker: Dr. William Struthers

Video URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWXqSFuIXSc

1. Dr. Struthers indicates that pornography affects ones view of men, and one's view of women, and the way one sees him/herself. How has this been true for you or those you know who have been addicted to pornography?

2. He states that pornography "rapes" the brain because the brain was never meant to see hundreds of sex acts on a regular basis. He says that this experience affects the brain and can alter it in unhealthy ways. The brain is designed to learn and to adapt. What did pornography

teach you and how did it change you?

3. Dopamine helps us focus in on those things that bring us pleasure in the meeting of needs. Norepinephrine helps form memories. With this knowledge of the brain, discuss how pornography caused you to defocus on other areas of your life and the results of that lack of focus.

4. Arousal forms an attachment to a representation of a person rather than to a real person. What do you think this does to one's ability to help form intimate and healthy relationships?

5. Masturbating to a fantasy binds you not to people, but to the fantasy and to sexual stimulation. Thus, masturbation fails to connect one to another in love and intimacy. It bonds them to an object or process. How has masturbation kept you from healthy attachments?

6. Praying and scripture reading are necessary in healing. Yet, Dr. Struthers also indicates it isn't sufficient if one does not change one's behavior and replace it with something else. What do you think would help change the old pattern of resorting to pornography and how do you think the Body of Christ can be beneficial in

supporting healing?

Title: Testimony of Underage Porn User

Speaker: David (Anonymous)

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4a172f6

1. David speaks about how the use of pornography leads to a desire and a craving for more. What do you think about this idea and what do you think motivates it?

2. When confronted by law enforcement, David decided to share the truth knowing the consequences. What benefit does openness and honesty have spiritually in the face of negative consequences?

3. David admits that the use of pornography was a challenge throughout his life and he remembers the pain he caused those he loved. He uses that awareness as a motivation to stay in recovery and heal. In 2 Corinthians 7:10 we read that godly sorrow produces repentance. Discuss the idea that there is no true repentance where there is no godly sorrow.

4. David talks about the love of his family and wife and how it has been instrumental in his healing. How do a healthy family and church community lead to healthy living?

5. Christ can save anyone from any sin. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 indicates that we “were” something and are now sanctified and justified in Christ. What difference does this make in one’s healing and growth in Christ?

Title: Pornography in the Pew

Speakers: Shane and Marty Couch

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7adfa54

1. Shane talks about his sexual addiction, the pleasure it gave, and the greater realization that it was creating great shame and guilt in his heart. He strove to control his behavior but constantly relapsed. What do you think is the relationship between the shame that addicts feel and their desire to be free?

2. Shane talks about the hopelessness that accompanies

porn addiction. He revealed that being transparent and talking about one's struggle is a key to the problem. What keeps porn addicts from talking and what would they need to do differently to take the risk to be transparent?

3. Porn addicts make vows to never act out again only to find themselves feeling helpless and believing they are hypocrites. Discuss how they try to integrate their thinking with Scripture.

4. When Shane finally confessed openly and honestly to Marty, he felt free. Marty however did not. She felt a sense of guilt and blamed herself. Why do you think Marty would feel guilt and blame herself initially but then become angry upon disclosure of his secret? What lies do you think women tell themselves regarding their husband's porn addiction?

5. The Couch's indicate that silence keeps us in bondage to our addictions. James 5:16 encourages us to confess our sins to one another and to receive prayer for healing. What keeps us from the confession that we know will set us free? What would you need to do differently to take the risk of breaking the silence about your bondage?

6. Jonathan Daugherty discusses the label of “sexual addict” versus the fact of having a sexual addiction? What difference do you think this can make in recovery and our identity in Christ?

7. “Accountability became routine…” is what Shane realized in his struggle to change himself. In what way does accountability to another become helpful or a hindrance?

8. Marty discusses the role of a support group. She says the most comforting and healing words are “me too.” Discuss the role of a supportive group of folks who understand and have walked the same path and how this benefits healing and spiritual strength.

9. Marty’s response to Shane’s confession wasn’t freedom but a journey through numbness, anger and pain. This developed a wall in their marriage and trust was broken. What are your thoughts about the way in which he confessed his addiction to his wife? Do you agree or disagree and why?

10. Marty indicates that PTSD can be one result of a wives’ realization of her husband’s addiction. How might

a support group help such wives and why do you think this might be important?

Title: Christian Singer Porn Free

Speaker: Clay & Renee Crosse

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+6370b4b

1. Clay's first exposure to pornography was in the fourth grade. He saw the magazines setting out on the coffee table at his friend's house. When and how did your first exposure occur? How are kids exposed today?

2. Clay's attitude (and clearly the attitude of his friend's parents) was "No big deal. It's just harmless fantasy". Is it? What machinations in a person's mind and heart, as well as in the demonic world, will take things further?

3. As he got into his late teens and early twenties, Clay justified the use of pornography through a sense of entitlement, because he considered himself the "oldest virgin in the world". How does a sense of entitlement play into a bondage to this sin?

4. Renee's justification was similar, telling herself: "That's just what boys do. It's just fantasy. No one gets hurt". Is that true? Discuss what you know of the victimization that is involved in the production of pornography.

5. Discuss what you know of the harm that comes to those who use pornography, as well as to their spouses, friends and families. Cover the spiritual, physical, mental and emotional aspects of the damage. (Use the chapter on pornography from Dr. David Kyle Foster's book, The Sexual Healing Reference Edition, for additional information).

6. Discuss Clay's belief that God took his singing voice away in order to cause him to address his problem with pornography. Does God really do stuff like that?

7. What part might ego, pride, and self-centeredness play in a bondage to pornography? What other sins of the flesh might contribute to that bondage?

8. If a guy has a problem with pornography, should he always confess the sin to his wife, as Clay did? What situations might be exceptions to that general principle

and why? What is the best way to spring the news on your spouse?

9. Discuss the problem of family-line curses and the “sins of the fathers” being passed on to the children in this arena. Biblically, how is such a curse overturned?

10. What rationalizations have you used in the past to justify your sinful sexual behaviors?

11. In what ways has your sexual behavior hurt others around you?

12. What role has pornography played in your life? How do you feel about yourself after sexually acting out with pornography?

13. Have your regrets about your sexual behavior come from frustration over being messed up, from embarrassment over getting caught, or from religious duty? Ask the Lord to show you if these false forms of repentance have been your pattern and to enable you to feel genuine sorrow from your heart over your sin against God.

14. Renee speaks of the day that Clay confessed his struggle with pornography as “the most hurtful and the most hopeful day in their marriage”. How so?

15. What about the public sharing of their battle with pornography and forgiveness? Is that something we are all called to do? If not, how do you know when and if you are called to do something like that?

16. Discuss what has become “normal” TV viewing by family members today. Is it really normal? What about the subtle messages of lust, rebellion, violence, etc. found in the plot lines of most programs today? Does that affect the viewer in equally subtle ways? What about the biblical command for the believer to be “set apart” from the world (-i.e., the rebellious attitudes, beliefs and actions of the world)?

17. Discuss the biblical teaching that “the wisdom of the world is foolishness before God”. (1 Corinthians 3:19)

18. Why did Renee blame herself for Clay’s porn use? Is that common?

19. Discuss Renee’s prayers and spiritual actions for her

husband.

20. Discuss the increased spiritual power that exists behind prayers for someone who has hurt you.

21. Renee believed that nothing would change Clay except prayer and the Word of God. Discuss the power and simplicity of her approach.

22. Why is Renee now thankful that Clay went through a bondage to porn and has found freedom from it?

23. Renee suggests that there is a consistency in following a time of spiritual intimacy with God with a time of physical and emotional intimacy with one's spouse. Biblically, where can that connection be found and why does the thought of such a connection at first seem uncomfortable? (See David Kyle Foster's booklet, "The Divine Marriage" for a more complete teaching on this subject).

24. What are some of the ways to make your home a holy place?

25. Sing "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord" along with

Clay and his band.

26. Using Clay & Renee's story, read Titus 2:11-14 and talk about how grace teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and to live upright and godly lives in this present age.

27. Who in your life has taken some blame for your sinful choices? Did you let them? If yes, give reasons why you made this choice.

28. How has prayer been a part of your recovery?

29. How is you home a holy place? How is it not a holy place? What would you need to do differently to make it a more sacramental place - a more fitting dwelling for the Lord?

30. Reflect on the role of grace in your recovery and begin to give God thanks and praise.

31. In what ways have you tried to confess to someone your struggles? Were you able to do this? If no, why not?

32. In what ways would you consider your sexual behavior “foolish” and why?

Title: Somebody’s Daughter & Porn

Speaker: Steve Siler

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+ae8edc7

1. What is the most damaging effect of pornography according to Steve Siler?

2. Can the use of pornography be a form of adultery? How so?

3. What is the chemical effect of pornography and how does it play a part in creating an addiction?

4. How does viewing porn set a person up for disappointment in the marriage bed?

5. Discuss the self-doubts that are often created in the heart of the spouse of a porn user.

6. Discuss Steve's description of how sexual intimacy between a husband and wife is meant to operate.

7. Describe how your addiction to sex is a form of idolatry? How has this idol replaced your commitment to Christ?

8. If you are married, how has the use of pornography negatively affected your idea of sex and intimacy with your mate?

9. Many times those involved in pornography try to get their mate to act out things they see in pornography. Have you done this and what was the result spiritually and relationally?

10. If you are married, ask God to show you ways that you can adapt to the biblical model for sexual intimacy. Ask Him to show you ways to make it as much an act of self-giving as an act of taking, and as much a spiritual act as a physical one.

11. Steve comments: "People think it's not costing them anything!" What is the cost of using porn - to the user, to the person in the pictures, and to society in general?

12. How do shame and condemnation perpetuate a bondage to porn?

13. Discuss our culture's fear of intimacy and how that drives people to porn.

14. How does accountability with another guy (or another girl) help in getting and staying free from porn?

15. How can we prepare for the battle and address the issue from an offensive posture?

16. How can we deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ? (Steve does it by regularly meeting with other men.) How else can it be done?

17. Steve spends time with God by reading Scripture and taking walks in the woods. How do you spend time with God?

18. What has been the cost to you emotionally, spiritually, mentally and relationally for using porn?

19. What role has shame played in your life and

relationships?

20. How has your shame and guilt negatively affected others close to you?

21. What would you need to do differently to embrace the Father's grace, mercy and love?

22. In what ways has the Church failed to communicate and model healthy human sexuality? What can we do differently?

23. Since bringing the truth of our bondage and brokenness into the open is key to dispelling the power of darkness, why does the Church continue to ignore sexually broken people (other than to condemn them or to tell them they are just fine)? What can you do to help change the situation in your church?

24. Revealing the grace, love and power of Jesus at the point of a person's greatest defeat is a revelation that powerfully motivates change. Discuss "real-world" ways in which that can be more effectively accomplished.

25. Sexually bound and broken people are often too

embarrassed or afraid to come to the Church for help? Discuss some solutions, such as off-site counseling.

26. Many of us have been groomed by the culture (and our own past actions) to make sex objects out of people rather than engaging in a process of getting to truly know and love them. How can this pattern be reversed?

27. Discuss the process by which a person appropriates God's power to be set free and kept from falling. Pray the Ephesians 1:17-21 prayer for your sexually bound and broken friends and loved ones.

28. Historically, what did your involvement in church teach you about human sexuality?

29. Ask God to give you a plan for reaching out to sexually broken people in your church and city. Submit that plan to your pastor.

30. Developmentally, what shaped your views of sex and sexuality (-i.e., media, culture, church, etc.)?

31. Write out a battle plan to use when sexual temptation comes your way. Spell out exactly what you

will do before, during and after the attack, making certain that each step is based on biblical promises and principles rather than your own wisdom and strength.

Special Segment: David's Q&A

"God's Intention for Human Sexuality"

1. What does the Bible say about God's intention for human sexuality?

2. How does God's omniscience affect His thoughts and actions, and therefore His design for human sexuality?

3. What does human sexuality symbolize or prefigure, and how?

4. How was heterosexual monogamy established as the model for human sexual behavior by God in Genesis 1 & 2?

5. Read through the Scriptures listed above and ask God to deepen your understanding and appreciation of the ultimate purpose for making us sexual beings.

6. The sexual act in marriage is to be as much a spiritual act as a physical act. Discuss.

7. How has sex been more of a selfish act in your life rather than a loving, spiritual one?

8. How has this selfish focus for sex affected you emotionally, spiritually, and sexually?

9. If you are married, how has your sexual acting out affected the sexual intimacy you share with your mate?

Title: Freedom from Porn Thru Intimacy w/God

Speaker: John Glisson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+0f0493b

1. John indicates that divorce was a major factor in the destructive lifestyle he lived. In what ways do you think divorce lends itself to a destructive lifestyle and why?

2. Years later in a time of isolation, he found himself

returning to porn and masturbation. In what ways does isolation and aloneness contribute to the desire to act our sexually? How does community help in healing?

3. Peter Horrobin equates sexual immorality with idolatry. Discuss this idea and the reasons it becomes an idol in one's life.

4. John indicates that regular confession of their sins to God, to one's self, and to others (James 5:16, 1 John 1:9) is important to the beginning to recovery and healing. What power does confession have and how does confession make a difference in you?

5. Christ's death on the cross is the key to our sin issue. The Apostle Paul writes in Titus that it is grace that teaches us to say "No" to our sinful struggles. Discuss how our healing is rooted in intimacy with God and His grace rather than a performance system that says "I have to try harder to stay sober".

6. What difference would it make if our motivation for life was to know Jesus Christ more intimately? What difference would it make spiritually and emotionally?

Title: Freed from Sex Addiction

Speaker: Mark Laaser

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b7e24eb

1. Dr. Laaser indicates through data that many sex addicts have endured some form of abuse - emotional, physical or sexual. How did he relate this abuse to sexual addiction?

2. He referred to the sex addict as having “soul hunger.” What did he mean by this? How do soul hunger, a need for love, affirmation and approval, wound the heart and relate to sexual struggles?

3. Sy Rogers indicates that pornography is any form of communication, written or visual, that stimulates the sexual senses in an enticing way. Sex is degraded into something other than for marriage and intimacy. How has pornography affected your ability to love and be intimate? If married, how has it affected your marriage?

4. Dr. Laaser indicates that addictions are much like

original sin - the desire to control one's life and to make pride central. This sense of being in control of one's life is the opposite of walking in dependency and trust, as well as living humbly and walking with God. How does one's addiction create a distance from Christ? How does humility lead us to Christ and then into recovery and healing?

5. Dr Laaser and Dr. Foster indicate that humility and a sense of powerlessness are necessary for healing. God leads us to repentance and healing from not just sexual sin issues but all the related issues that have reinforced the sexual sin. What keeps you from experiencing the godly sorrow that leads to repentance? (1 Corinthians 10:7) If you are willing, pray and repent today and find a community of on-fire believers who know God intimately.

Title: Religious Legalism & Pornography

Speaker: Nate Larkin

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8ce9813

1. What themes or principles in Nate's story made an impression on you? Why?

2. For the survivor of abuse, having different parts or personalities can be a way of protecting one's self from being overwhelmed by horrific pain and self-hatred. It helps the person function in a world that, for them, has gone completely out-of-control. It enables them to harbor in places of acceptance and where they can find a semblance of love. On the downside, since these parts are masks, they can sometimes keep a person from living in freedom. How does community help us in finding our true self and in living in vulnerability? Why is the church a necessary part of seeing this take place?

3. Nate founded the Samson Society - a network of men's groups that help guys live in authenticity, humility and community. Promise Keepers is another such organization. Have you ever attended such a group? If so, what was your experience?

4. Submit. Resist. Draw near. Discuss this pattern talked about by Andy Reese - how it can help us overcome our sexual struggles and bring healing to our wounded hearts.

5. Sy Rogers talks about the need to have certain characteristics to overcome. These include flexibility, the ability to rebound from mistakes, a healthy sense of humor, and a persevering commitment to the eternal picture. Talk about these and how they help us overcome our challenges. Which trait(s) do you need to develop?

Title: Sexually Abused to Homosexual

Speaker: Jayson Graves

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+d7a820c

1. Jayson talks about his early years of porn use and sexual abuse and how it all led to his inability to trust adults. When we learn not to trust others, we place that trust in ourselves instead. What are the problems in living a life trusting only in one's self?

2. There is a lot of talk about "bullying" these days and the damage that can be done through critical words spoken to us by kids in school. How can such labeling and peer rejection affect our choices as teenagers or

adults?

3. God has a redemptive vision for all of our lives. He wants to heal our broken hearts and minds and has a vision for our lives that He will reveal and empower as we walk with Him. How is a redemptive message far better than one that scares people into healing?

4. Early in his recovery, Jayson's pride and arrogance prevented his total healing. He thought he could do it on his own. He didn't know that his wife saw his porn use as adultery. Understanding this led him to care enough to transform. Why do you think he was willing to transform after the conversation with his wife and not before? What role does "caring" play in one's desire to transform?

5. Jayson talks about the important role in the healing process that can be played by accountability, support groups, and God's Word. He also talks about changing his health and eating habits as necessary. Discuss the role of these things as a part of the healing and transformation process.

Title: Porn & Sex Addiction

Speaker: David Zailer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1a1a82e

1. David talks about being sexually abused by a man in his church. Talk about the role of sexual abuse and its link with sexual addiction.

2. David talks about his family being one of "secrets." His family didn't talk about dysfunctional behaviors or share thoughts and feelings. What secrets were hidden in your family? How did these secrets affect you personally? Discuss why secrets are so destructive to being healthy and whole.

3. David was a conflicted man in his early adult life - living a life of open sexual sin while still attending church. How is it that Christians can attend church regularly but also maintain a lifestyle of sexual sin? Have you done this? How did you justify it to yourself?

4. David states that obedience allows us to "swim deeply in the mystery of God's goodness". Discuss the challenges as well as the joys of walking in obedience.

What are the challenges you have had in walking in obedience?

5. Sy Rogers once said that obedience is better than disobedience as it minimizes consequences to one's self and others. Discuss the merit of this statement.

Title: Bonding & Sex Addiction

Speaker: Richard Marks, PhD

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+e1b1106

1. Dr. Marks says that the Genesis 2:18 passage about aloneness is not about being married. It is a condition of a human heart that is not intimately connected to God, self and others. Humans were meant to live in healthy attachments. But the lack of healthy attachments creates pain. Did you grow up feeling alone in your youth? If so, what did you do to deal with that pain?

2. Dr. Marks identifies core needs that must be met - using the acronym CARESS. Who met your needs for comfort, attention, affection, approval, acceptance,

appreciation, respect, encouragement, security and support? If your parents did not, where did you get these needs met?

3. Richard defines an addiction as a pathological love and trust relationship with an object or event? This assumes that addictions are a bonding disorder. Addicts don't bond to people, but rather, to the object of their addiction. Why is it that one would choose to bond to an object or process and not to others?

4. Humans avoid pain by pursuing pleasure. What do you turn to in order to avoid the pain of aloneness?

5. So many people try to earn Abba's love through performance, in order to feel loved and accepted. They are also trying to obtain a sense that they are good enough and that their life matters. What have you done to try to make God love you more or to try to feel better about yourself?

6. Grace says we are already loved and accepted. We just have to enter into what is already true. What difference would it make to live in grace rather than performance? Thank Abba for His unconditional acceptance. Take the

risk, take off the mask, and take the love He extends to you.

7. If performance isn't the way to God's love and approval, what is?

Title: Lessons from a Former Sex Addict

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Arterburn

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+0c46669

1. Does Steve's account of his own involvement with promiscuity, abortion and an affair with a married woman mirror any experience in your own life? What have been the regrets and the lessons you have learned?

2. If our brains get "wired" by early exposure to pornography, how can that imprinting be overturned or corrected?

3. Steve recommended three strategies for the battle: protect the eyes, protect the mind and protect the heart.

What are some ways to do that in this sex-saturated culture?

4. Steve cautioned that we need to not just avoid the bad, but to spend even more time moving toward the positive. How can that be achieved today?

5. Do you sometimes share in the core belief of a sex addict - that you are entitled to experience whatever you want to experience? How can that core belief or expectation be overcome?

6. List some things that you could do to protect your eyes.

7. List some things that you could do to protect your mind.

8. List some things that you could do to protect your heart.

9. Pray and commit to the Father that you are going to begin doing some of the things you listed.

10. Self-hatred is a key component to sexual addiction (or any addiction). Have you struggled with self-hatred and can you identify the sin that underlies and empowers it?

11. If your self-hatred has stemmed from angry, distant parents, what does God offer to heal the problem?

12. Although small groups can become pity parties where folks remain focused on their hurts and traumas, Steve suggests that healthy groups can become second families, where you can experience and internalize love and where you can grieve the loss of the ideal family in your own life. Have you ever experienced these positive dynamics in a small group? If so, share what happened.

13. Have you ever battled with God over not running the world the way you think it should be run? Have you been able to finally grieve the loss of the Garden of Eden, as Steve suggested, and come to peace with the greater wisdom and purposes of God?

14. Steve suggests that one of the elements to getting free from past hurts is to begin serving others. Have you experienced a greater freedom and healing in doing

that?

15. If your experience in life has been one of a fear of true intimacy, what solution does God offer for that dilemma?

16. If your experience in life has been one of drivenness to perform for love and acceptance, what solution does God offer for that dilemma?

17. Steve says that intimacy with God looks like this: starting and ending your day with God; seeing life from His perspective, through prayer; regularly reading His Word; and serving others.

18. You are God's secretary and He wants you to write a letter to yourself, from Him, to share His love and thoughts about you. Write such a letter.

19. Look at your letter. What does the Father tell you about yourself? How does this differ from what you tell yourself about you?

20. Pray to the Father and ask Him to reveal to you what causes your sense of self-hatred to keep manifesting. Ask

Him to help you heal as you renounce the lies that have supported the self-hatred.

21. Is the idea of “chemical imprinting in the brain” when looking at pornography just an excuse for sin? What about the concept of the “frontal cortex of the brain controlling behavior”?

22. Can you confirm Steve’s claim that time alone with God will change such physiological factors? Have you become more willing to “experience unhappy feelings” because of your intimate life with God?

23. Steve suggests that we have to face the source of our anxieties, with God’s help, in order to overcome them. Do you agree? Explain.

24. Steve talks about reaching a point in life where we experience the positive side of sharing in the sufferings of Christ. Have you been there and done that?

25. Have you come to the place where the Cross is your only hope or are you still trying to work things out through your own strength and wisdom?

26. Have you been freed from sin's eternal death sentence but not from its temporal consequences? What does that mean in real-world terms?

27. Steve said that religious systems don't work, but only grace. Are churches these days doing a good job of communicating the difference? Explain what you see happening and what could be a solution for any problem.

28. Do you want freedom - permanently - through Christ? Discuss the changes in belief and action that are necessary for that to happen.

29. Anxieties are about stress and fear. What fears do you have that underlie your anxieties?

30. How has your past involvement in church been an attempt to overcome your anxieties, sense of shame and failure?

31. During your "quiet time" with God for the next few weeks or months, read the crucifixion accounts in the Gospels and ask God to begin revealing to you the deeper realities behind the suffering, death and

resurrection of His Son - especially His suffering. Keep a journal of what God shows you.

Special Segment: Sy Roger's "My Thoughts About That"

"Why Christians Still Have Sexual Struggles"

1. If believers are a "new creation" then how is it that we still express fallen desires and behaviors?

2. Sy suggested that when we sin we should run to God, not from Him. Why do most people tend to run from God when they sin?

3. Discuss Sy's observation: "Culture encourages us to be sexual and to live by our feelings". How does living by our feelings block the promises of God?

4. Sy suggests that temptation is designed to persuade us to question what God has said and get our needs met another way. Oswald Chambers once suggested that the core of all sin is the doubt that God is really good. Discuss these deepest roots of temptation and how to counter them.

5. Since we are all sexual creatures by God's design, how can we appropriate God's grace and His guidelines in the Word in order to keep our sexuality within His parameters in Creation? What about the need to appropriate God's power as well?

6. If a person has never felt loved, valuable and accepted, what then can they do to counter the resulting drive to illicit love and acceptance?

7. How does being a "new creation" in Christ contribute to the healing of your sexual brokenness?

8. List one to five things that keep you from running to God when you sin.

9. List one to five "new thoughts" that you could use to help you run to God when sinning.

10. Ask the Lord to reveal to you any way in which you are ruled and moved by feelings rather than by the truth that He has declared in His Word. Then make a decision to alter that pattern with God's help.

Title: Every Man's Battle – Pornography

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Arterburn

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+736f405

1. Romans 12:2 says we are to be transformed by changing the way we think. This is not what we are to think about, but the way in which we think. What is the difference between these two and what difference will it make in one's ability to live a healthy mature Christian life?

2. Recovery is not about controlling one's sexual addiction but about character development, connection to others, and a transformation in the way we think. What difference will this make in one's life? How is the Church of Christ and God's Word instrumental in helping in these areas?

3. Temptation is not the same as sin according to Dr. Arterburn? What is the difference according to him and how does this distinction help us? How is the shame-based person affected by temptation?

4. John 8:31-32 makes it clear that to know the truth

and to be free requires us to abide in Christ and His teachings and this abiding is what leads to our freedom. How is it that freedom requires abiding and that this abiding leads to the knowledge of what is true?

5. Pray and ask Father God to forgive you for your sin and trust in Him. Trust him to live His life through you.

Title: The False Intimacy of Sex Sin - Part 1

Speaker: Dr. Harry Schaumburg

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+09ea224

1. Dr. Schaumburg indicates that sexual sin is more about intimacy rather than a sex act. What are your thoughts about that? How would you describe the intimacy that sex addicts are truly seeking?

2. Our speaker indicates that those who seek intimacy through sexual sin do so in order to meet deep seated needs for acceptance and attention, which in turn, makes them feel special, valued, and even loved. Yet, sexual sin is a counterfeit. Thus, sexually addicted individuals are

being driven more by emotions rather than what is true and real. Discuss the power of desiring those feelings and acting on them rather than obedience to God's Word.

3. Dr. Schaumburg calls acting out being "on stage." Discuss your thoughts about that and the power of being "on stage".

4. God comes to the sinner and that act is our acceptance. God then transforms us as He draws us to Him. Why do you think that this is not enough for Christians such that many would still seek love and intimacy in other ways?

5. False intimacy is about living out our own will rather than, in humility, living out God's will. Discuss why humility is essential to finding true intimacy and healing.

Title: The False Intimacy of Sex Sin - Part 2

Speaker: Dr. Harry Schaumburg

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/

media/mi/+44258e2

1. Dr. Schaumburg quotes the passage in Philippians about our need to “work out our salvation” with fear and trembling. This would indicate that healing from sexual sin requires that we have a personal responsibility in our healing. It takes an effort on our part. Discuss the idea that we have to make an effort towards our healing as opposed to the idea that we need only submit and trust God to heal our wounds.

2. God’s good will and pleasure is to transform us into Christ’s likeness. What will prevent us from allowing that to happen in our lives? What is required in us for that transformation to take place?

3. People in sexual sin, according to Dr. Schaumburg, are not truly thirsting after righteousness, but rather, a righteousness of their own. Talk about your own journey of struggling with your own will against desiring God’s will.

4. Is masturbation a sin? Jonathan points out that this behavior is not God’s best for us and is less than what God intended for our sexuality. Discuss this idea of God’s

best rather than focusing on whether it is a sin or not. By talking about God's best, masturbation seems so silly. What do you think?

5. What do you think about Dr. Schaumburg's parallel between sexual and spiritual maturity? Talk about the relationship between the two and how sexual sin reveals spiritual immaturity. What does it take to develop spiritual maturity and sexual maturity?

Title: Sex & the Brain

Speaker: Dr. Earl Henslin

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+bf64194

1. Forethought is a function of the prefrontal lobe. Why is forethought essential for sex addicts or anyone with an impulse control problem? How has poor impulse control affected your life?

2. In the first segment of the video with Dr. Henslin, it is clear that humans are wired to live a life of balance. Too much of anything (sugar, etc) can have a negative effect

on the brain. Or as he put it, everything we eat affects the brain. In what areas of your life do you find yourself out of balance?

3. Jayson Graves offers some recovery ideas. First is honesty. How does honesty open the path for healing and dishonesty prevent healing? We can't conquer addictive patterns on our own. We need others. Honesty requires vulnerability and humility. By being honest, we open ourselves up to receiving love, support and information necessary for our healing. How does fear keep us from being honest?

4. Healing takes time. Patience is essential for healing. Addicts tend to be impulsive and lack patience and self-control. Thus we need to receive God's grace for our healing. What keeps you from being patient? How can you use your everyday experiences to practice patience rather than impulsively handle them?

5. Having listened to Dr. Henslin, it is clear that sexual addiction not only affects others, but our emotions and physiology as well. Thus, we must realize and consider brain health as a part of our recovery. What benefit will knowing this information about your brain have in

aiding your recovery?

Title: Gaining Freedom from Pornography

Speaker: John Bevere

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+cd0afbb

1. John indicates that many people are not delivered because their repentance and their desire for healing is focused more on themselves rather than their relationship with Christ. It's the difference between Saul and David. How have you been praying? What is your focus? Who is your sorrow really for?

2. Worldly individuals need to press into knowing Christ deeply with an internal cry to God. When we reach that place, we no longer focus on ourselves but on our Savior. We understand that we don't want to sin against God. Why do Christians find it difficult to desire an intimate walk with Christ? What role does teaching from the pulpits play?

3. In 2 Corinthians 12:9 God refers to His grace as His

power…His divine power! What do you think grace is? What were you taught? Trying to live godly in your own strength means you will not achieve permanent victory.

4. Sexual sin allows us to see others as objects, not as those who have been made in the image and likeness of God. Once we get the biblical concept in our heart, we will see others as image bearers of God. How does objectifying another through sexual sin harm both them and ourselves? How does this keep us in bondage to our sexual sin?

5. David Kyle Foster says of humanistic forms of repentance, most only weep as a form of self-focus. True sorrow comes from God's grace and it causes a realization of the pain and hurt we have caused others. Our sorrow becomes focused on those we hurt rather than ourselves. Godly sorrow produces repentance according to 2 Corinthians 10. What difference would true sorrow make in your life and relationships?

Title: Hope for the Sex Addict

Speaker: Rick Kardos

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c00a046

1. Rick says that fear of failure was instrumental in shaping his life and decisions. What fears have you struggled with? How do you think these have shaped the development of your sexual struggles?

2. Rick admitted, “The pornography made me feel better.” How can pornography make one feel better about themselves, their sense of self, their relationships, etc.?

3. The desire to be appreciated, accepted and approved of is a powerful need that we all share. But we are meant to have those needs met in healthy, mature ways. What have you done to get those needs met? Did it work for you? If not, why might that be? Christ intends to meet our needs, so how do you think He intends to do so?

4. Fear of intimacy. Rick states that when intimacy is broken we lose trust. In reaction, we seek to have intimacy in ways that we can control. Addiction allows for this sense of control. How does this process hurt yourself and others?

5. Rick speaks to the fact that pornography provides a false sense of what sex in marriage and intimacy should look like. Then reality sets in and you realize that the pornography was telling you a lie. How did pornography set you up for relational and sexual problems in your marriage? In Rick's case, his choices led to a divorce. What happened in your marriage?

6. Rick indicates that he needs to learn to be loved and to allow himself to be loved by God. Developing a trust in God didn't happen quickly, however. What are your thoughts about someone not trusting God fully yet slowly walking into a newfound level of intimacy with Him and with others?

7. Christ is the answer to our need for relational intimacy. Entering into a loving fellowship of believers is key to growing and maturing out of our addiction and into spiritual and relational maturity. Discuss how Christ is making a difference in your life, relationally, sexually, and spiritually.

Title: A Solution to Pornography

Speakers: Dr. Neil Anderson, Jayson Graves, David

Kyle Foster

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+f05ca2f

1. David says that pornography is not a victimless crime. Discuss the idea that we contribute to the destruction of innocent lives as well as finance organized crime through our purchase of pornography.

2. Jayson says that the use of porn only leads to bondage and a lack of fulfillment. Has your experience of using porn been the same? What is going on?

3. Jayson indicates that the following areas are involved in a bondage to porn: hunger, anger, loneliness, tiredness, sickness, sadness, stress, fear and shame. How do these factors operate in an addiction to porn?

4. David says that pornography works to destroy God's holy design for sexual relations by distorting the image of God in sexuality, by creating impure motivations for expressing sexual urges, by tempting the heart to go after the forbidden, private areas of another's body, and by sending the mind into a netherworld of sexual lust

and perversion, thereby blocking true intimacy. Discuss.

5. Jesus said that lusting after someone in your heart is sin. Why is it sin and what are ways that you have found to prevent or minimize such lust?

6. David says that a pornographic picture “allows me to weave a fantasy that generates pleasure that I’m convinced I could never have with the actual person”. Discuss this and other hidden, interior motivations behind the use of porn.

7. Jayson says that the interior needs that drive a person to porn and masturbation are usually legitimate but should be satisfied by other, more godly means. What are some of those ways and means?

8. In order to find freedom from porn and masturbation, David outlines these solutions:

- acknowledge it as the evil that it is

- repent of having financed the destruction of the lives of those in the porn that you’ve purchased

- ask for, receive and accept God's forgiveness

- ask God to motivate you by the love that He poured out for you on the Cross

- destroy all materials and avoid the places and environments that sell it

- set your heart against porn by making an irrevocable decision that by God's power, using it will never again be an option in your life

- set an angelic guard at the door of your mind to aid in expelling the enemy when he comes

- see temptation as an opportunity for growth in righteousness and spiritual maturity

- ask God to give you a healthy perspective of the sexuality of others - to see them as God sees them

- forsake and reverse the idolatry behind porn with regular worship and praise of who God is

- ask God to transmit into you wholeness and emotional health and then believe that He is doing just that

- enter into relationship with the Father through regular communion with Him

- ask God to set you free from any demonic strongholds that may have taken root as a result of using pornography and to fill the remaining void with His Holy Spirit

Discuss.

9. Neil Anderson says that God grants repentance to those who are dependent upon Him rather than themselves. He says that Christian counseling should lead one to an encounter with God. Discuss your experience of partnering with God in finding freedom.

10. Discuss Dr. Anderson's list of things that prevent us from having an intimate relationship with God:

- false guidance/deception from ungodly sources such as the occult, false teachers, etc.

- the embrace of condemnation rather than God’s grace

- failure to address and overcome bitterness

- ignoring the need to forgive others from the heart

- pride

- rebellion

- the entrapment of ongoing flesh-patterns of sin

- neglecting to renounce the iniquities of the father that have been passed down through 3-4 generations.

Transgender Disorders

Title: Transgender Disorders

Speaker: Sy Rogers

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+860c5cc

1. Discuss the difference between a drag queen and a transvestite.

2. How might “over-bonding nurture” from a mother or harshness from a father lead to transvestite tendencies in a son?

3. In what ways is a transsexual different from a transvestite?

4. Imagine, if you can, not feeling in harmony with your physical gender. Imagine never being able to measure up to your physical gender role. How would you feel? What would you do?

5. To what did Sy attribute the healing of his damaged sense of self?

6. Sy says that many transsexuals have found healing through God. Have you ever met one? If so, share what you know of their transformation.

7. Ask God to remove your natural aversion to transsexuals and transvestites and to give you a love for them instead. Then ask Him to bring one to your attention, (via the media or in your own surroundings), and pray for his or her salvation and healing on a regular basis.

8. Discuss your parents in terms of their parenting and emotional makeup and how this contributed to any identity confusion you may have developed?

9. What experiences in your life contributed to a damaged sense of self?

10. How can an intimate relationship with Abba Father heal that damaged self?

11. What is the proper treatment for transsexualism (vs

the popular treatment)?

12. What conclusion did Johns Hopkins University draw regarding sex change surgery?

13. According to Sy, what is the answer for the person who struggles with transsexual feelings?

14. Ask God to show you any population for whom you have disgust or whom you view as a lower form of life, or less deserving of God's love than yourself. Ask Him to give you the gift of repentance for harboring such judgments in your heart and to replace them with His love for those very people.

15. Ask God to give you a sound answer for the transsexual who insists that he or she was meant by God to be the opposite sex from the chromosomes (XX or XY) that God gave them. (

16. Watch the film, "TranZformed: Finding Peace with Your God-Given Gender" online and discuss. Alternately, get the DVD.

17. Through what treatments have you attempted to find

healing? Why did these work or not work?

18. What is the difference between hermaphrodism, Kleinfelter's Disease, Turner's Syndrome, and Intersex condition?

19. How does "sex reassignment" surgery differ from "gender clarification" surgery, in both the clinical sense and in the moral sense?

20. According to Sy Rogers, what is the answer for people with these conditions?

21. Do you believe that there is sometimes a demonic element to these conditions in certain people?

22. How does Sy describe the possible influence of demonic powers in these conditions?

23. How do traits get passed down through the generations? Where is that found in the Bible?

24. What does Sy suggest as the best way to handle this dimension of the problem?

25. Where can a person find clinical research on the issue of transgender disorders?

26. Reflect on any lessons that you have learned from exposure to people who suffer from one of the conditions above.

27. Reflect on how a demonic spirit might insinuate itself into cases like these and how a believer (if repentant) has been equipped by God to overturn such strongholds.

28. If transgender disorders are at least partially physiological, how might that impact God's judgment of the matter as well as the process of deliverance and healing?

Title: Transgender Transformation - Part 1

Speaker: Daniel Delgado

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+68d8328

1. Daniel talks about the destructive fathers (biological and step) in his life. What effects do you think not bonding to a father has on a child? What effects, if any, did your lack of attaching to a father have on you?

2. Daniel created another world to live in so that he could deal with his pain and hurt. It was an imaginary world where he was as a woman. Counselors affirmed his feelings and encouraged him to embrace a gay identity. He felt there was no hope in his life, so he decided to do just that. Discuss how hurt and pain from childhood leads people to embrace aberrant lifestyles.

3. Daniel entered into the "drag queen" lifestyle. Yet, though he made it into professional drag queen pageants, he remained lonely and depressed on the inside. How have you lived one life, while at the same time remaining miserable and broken deep inside? Why do you think people don't leave these lifestyles when they know they aren't taking away their misery and loneliness? What role can faith in Christ have in giving courage to face our true selves and make changes?

4. Daniel admits that he believed the lie that he was a gay man. In what ways does having our minds

transformed by the Word of God bear fruit in healing and transformation?

5. When Daniel experienced love instead of condemnation at a local church, he was finally able to hear from God the Father about his true self. How does the experience of God's love open one's eyes and ears and enable the process of freedom to begin? What does condemnation do to a person?

6. When Daniel began hearing from God that he could be delivered and that he was unconditionally loved and accepted, his heart was freed up to enter into the healing process. How did your healing take place in Christ? What enabled it to begin?

Title: Transgender Transformation - Part 2

Speaker: Daniel Delgado

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7ebe865

1. Daniel recognized that though he didn't have an earthly father, he did have a heavenly Father. Discuss

this revelation in light of the Scripture that teaches us that God is the Father to the fatherless (Psalm 68:5).

2. Daniel stated that upon getting saved, God “invited” him to walk with Him. Why do you think God didn’t demand this of him? What difference would commanding rather than inviting have made?

3. Though God showed Daniel that He was Daniel’s Father, Daniel still needed to walk out his life in a community of faith. What difference did this make in Daniel’s healing?

4. Why do you think prayer is so important to our healing? Why does God ask us to pray for things that we already know are His will?

5. Through prayer, Abba Father tells us the words we need to hear to help us in our healing. What words do you long to hear? What difference would hearing those words make for you in your healing journey?

Title: From Walt to Laura to Walt - Part 1

Speaker: Walter Heyer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+bfd171b

1. When Walt was four, his grandmother began to cross-dress him. Her gleeful affirmation when he dressed as a girl caused him to see it as a positive thing and perhaps, an identity. How might such a scenario contribute to further cross-dressing?

2. Sometimes trauma, such as Walt experienced when his father found out about the purple dress, ensconces a behavior as a defense mechanism and a secret place of solace. How would that contribute to his decision to be identified as a girl?

3. Walt's teen uncle saw Walt as feminine and began to molest him. Sadly, Walt's mother refused to believe him when he reported the initial incident and his father began to try to shape him as a man through severe discipline. How did these factors worsen Walt's confusion?

4. Walt spoke of developing a split persona, claiming that the female person inside of him remained silent but worked mightily in his head. How might the damage he

suffered and the resultant confusion as to who he was keep him from developing a relationship with God? How did it lead him into transgender confusion and eventually, a sex change operation?

5. Walt didn't believe that God could possibly understand what he was going through. Consequently, he decided that he was on his own. How would such a belief make things worse?

6. Sometimes sexually broken people marry, believing that it will heal their interior brokenness and end their sinful behavior. What really happens when a person decides to make such a move without first being healed and delivered?

7. Walt said that he became a top performer at work. How might that be connected to the stress, shame and secrecy that he lived with day in and day out?

8. After 36 years of struggle, Walt was told by a specialist that he had gender dysphoria and arranged for him to have a sex change operation. Was that malpractice on the part of the doctor? In what ways is the same ignorance destroying the lives of children and

adults even to this day?

Title: From Walt to Laura to Walt - Part 2

Speaker: Walter Heyer

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+96a18ee

1. After getting sex reassignment surgery, Walt was fired from his job and became homeless. Was that the right thing for them to do? What are some of the other consequences of transgender confusion that aren't talked about in our culture?

2. Walt's children did not respond well to his disclosure of being transgender. What should they have done differently?

3. Walt began to improve while attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. What principles within AA (listed below) mirrored some of what was needed to find healing from gender dysphoria?

- We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable.

- We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

- We made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

- We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

- We admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

- We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

- We humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

- We made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

- We made direct amends to such people wherever

possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

- We continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

- We sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

- Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

4. What did Walt's friend do right in bringing him into his home and family even while Walt continued to identify and dress as a woman?

5. Walt's pastor had him write down all of his struggles each week and had seasoned prayer warriors pray over them. How important was that?

6. Walt says that transgender confusion is a delusion, a fantasy, and a psychological disorder. One not so

brilliant psychologist told him he had a dissociative disorder and that it would be almost impossible for him to recover. With God, what might turn that diagnosis on its head?

7. Walt had a vision of Jesus Christ cradling him in His arms. Have you had an experience of God's presence in your life? Describe the experience and what changed in your life as a result.

8. How should the local church (both leader and lay person) respond to a transsexual who begins to attend their church? What if they are still in that lifestyle and wearing clothes of the opposite sex while in church? How can we help them and where can we send them for specialized help?

Title: Transgender Transformed - Part 1

Speaker: KathyGrace Duncan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+95ad36f

1. KathyGrace was molested by her older brother until

she was thirteen. What does the Bible say about incest and why is it particularly damaging when committed by a brother?

2. When KathyGrace revealed to her father that she wanted to be a man, he said to her: “We will not talk about this again!” Her mother said: “That’s gross!” Why were these reactions so damaging, and in general, how does this kind of parental silence and/or meanness compound the problem?

3. KathyGrace’s mom was weak and did not nurture her children. What does this kind of emotional disconnect do to a child and how is it fixed?

4. KathyGrace says that she knew a great deal about the Lord, yet didn’t know Him? Discuss spiritual blindness - why it happens and how that veil can be removed.

5. Upon finding out about her deception, KathyGrace’s pastor told her to leave the church. Was that the proper response? Why would a pastor say such a thing to someone in bondage? What could have been said and done that would have brought about a better end?

6. KathyGrace says that she became her dad and the girl she was dating became her mom. What might have been some possible dynamics in her life that could have caused that to happen?

7. After she was ensconced in ministry at a new church, the pastor eventually asked her “Who are you really?” Her reply was “I’m a woman living as a man?” With that honest reply, the Holy Spirit filled her and began to show her what she needed to do in order for her situation to turn around. During that process God literally changed her thinking and supernaturally took away her desire for pornography. Discuss.

8. The Lord began to lead her into experiencing God the Father as her dad. Has He done that in your life? How does God do this and how does that bring healing and transformation to father-wounds?

Title: Transgender Transformed - Part 2

Speaker: KathyGrace Duncan

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+71c7a42

1. One of KathyGrace's most important issues was a deep father-wound. As a part of her healing process, the Lord asked her to call Him "Daddy". Have you had such a deep wound? How did He bring healing into your life?

2. Forgiveness was also a major issue in her life, especially toward her father. Who are some of the people in your life that have needed forgiving and how did God help you do it?

3. Discuss what forgiveness is and what it isn't. Using Scripture, discuss why forgiving others is so vital for moving forward in your relationship with God and your purpose in life?

4. Sometimes parents are incapable of loving due to wounds from their own childhood. Discuss.

5. Searching out the lies that we have believed, especially those believed in childhood, and replacing them with God's truth is an extremely important thing to do. Many such lies are associated with rejection, abandonment, identity, self-hatred and abuse. Describe your experience in this regard.

6. If you have never done this, ask the Holy Spirit to begin revealing the lies that you have believed about God, yourself and others and to show you the truth about those issues.

7. KathyGrace says that it is important to have people sit with you who are not afraid of your messiness. Discuss.

8. KathyGrace says that our broken self is not who we truly are. How does a person discover who they truly are and begin to live from the truth? What pain are you dealing with and what does it look like to see that turn around?

9. KathyGrace says the healing process is not about being feminine, it's about being holy, finding freedom in Christ, and looking to Him to discover your true self. She then says, "I'm not done by any means, but I am free." Discuss.

Youth Sexual Struggles

Title: Sexual Struggles Among Youth

Speakers: Mark Millard & Steve King (The Lads)

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+affaa42

1. Mark observes: “Young people are driven by their passions”. How does this provide insight into ways to help them become godly?

2. Mark suggests that the typical approach to teens in the church (scaring them with the statistical risks of their behavior) is one that is bound to backfire because of the impulsive desire in teens to take risks. True?

3. Better, Mark says, is to challenge them to develop an intimate relationship with God. Is this always better? Is challenging anyone to develop intimacy with God effective? Why or why not?

4. How does a youth's undeveloped brain (vis-a-vis consequences and impulsivity) or their undeveloped capacity to cope with pain play a part in this problem? Do these factors mitigate culpability or consequences?

5. Mark notes that his ministry through music is about communicating more than just truth - that music communicates on a much deeper level by helping to lead people into God's presence. Has this been your experience? Share some of your deep experiences with God in worship.

6. Steve observes that change happens when God does something supernatural in a person's life. He says that when teens go from knowing about God to knowing Him in the deeper biblical sense of intimacy, that's when they begin making good decisions. Discuss your experience in this regard.

7. Ask God to show you how you can redirect your natural passions in godly directions that serve the Kingdom of God rather than war against it. Write down what He tells you and put it on your bathroom mirror as a regular reminder.

8. List five changes you would need to make in your life to walk intimately with God as a loving Father.

9. Describe how poor impulse control in your life plays itself out.

10. Describe the effect that music has had on you in the past - for good or ill. Make the appropriate changes to your musical repertoire as God directs.

11. What have you done in the past (or might do in the future) if someone who is starved for love throws him or herself at you sexually?

12. How does the support and accountability of a group of friends help in the struggle against sexual sin?

13. When “The Lads” welcomed their gay friend into their circle of friends, how did that help him find the Lord? How did it make things more difficult?

14. What is the nature and power of real love and how does it differ from the world’s concept of love?

15. With God's help, examine your life to see where you can make changes in what you watch, what you listen to, how you dress, the company you keep, etc. so that you become part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

16. Engage your friends in a conversation about how you can better support each other in a pursuit of holiness.

17. Ask God to show you where in your life you can make changes in order to be an effective ambassador of the Kingdom of God (2 Corinthians 5:18-20).

18. Steve notes that it is the honesty and openness of true friendship that enables a person to persevere, knowing that they are not alone in their struggles. Share the power of your close friendships, past and present.

19. Steve also makes the point that even though God knows of your struggles and failures, that He loves you anyway. It is the knowledge of this fact that empowers change. Discuss.

20. Discuss the message of the Lads song "Standing in the Sun".

21. How does that hope of glory help you persevere and thrive in the things of God?

22. Discuss the lyric: “Home now forever, where I was made to be.”

23. Begin to consider ways that you can be more open and vulnerable with your friends, so that they can be freed to be more open and vulnerable with you about what is really going on inside of them.

24. Begin to consider ways that you can be more open and vulnerable with God so that you can receive the revelation of His unconditional love for you, even in the midst of your struggle with sin and temptation.

25. Begin to engage God in the process of changing your world-view into a Kingdom-view. Ask Him to renew your thinking and perspective so that you see things as they truly are and in their true order of importance. Meditate on Scriptures like John 15:19; 17:14-19; 18:36; James 4:4.

Title: Rescuing Kids - Part 1

Speaker: Clayton Golliher

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+73842cd

1. Clayton makes it clear that his youth ministry is about "relationship building and building trust." Why do you think this is so important to this kind of ministry?

2. Sex is the fusion of two souls according to Scripture (1 Corinthians 6:16-20). Thus, sexual soul ties must be broken in order for healing to take place. Part of this is seeking forgiveness for the associated sins. Why do you think forgiveness is so important in this process?

3. How did God's forgiveness for your sexual sins aid in your recovery, healing and maturing in faith and life?

4. Many of the kids that they work with are demonized. Thus, deliverance is often necessary. Demons have "rights" and those "rights" have to be broken by the individual. They also need to learn how to give those "captive" parts of their heart to Christ. Discuss demonization and your experience in encountering and/or finding freedom from them.

5. Why do you think someone would hang on to things of the past even though they are a new creation in Christ?

6. Clayton says that healing has to include “burning the bridges to their old lifestyle.” The things (objects, databases, pictures, etc.) must be removed from their life in order to help break the strongholds and the sexual soul ties. As they destroy such objects, they must renounce the sins associated with them. What do you think the positives and negatives might be in this process?

Title: Rescuing Kids - Part 2

Speaker: Clayton Golliher

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+ba24f79

1. Clayton states that one of the components of healing is a renouncement of the sin of disrespect. We must seek forgiveness from those in authority over us. It is an indispensable means for deliverance from the sin and rebellion that lie beneath the sin of disrespect. Why do

you think learning respect is crucial for a total healing of the broken soul?

2. When Xochi started cutting herself, she felt “power” for the first time. It at least gave her the ability to control something in her life. Discuss this mindset. How do you relate to it? Since we are made strong in our weaknesses (2 Corinthians 12:7-10), how does humility make one powerful?

3. Xochi got to a point in her life where she “just didn’t care anymore.” Thus her life spiraled into alcohol, drug use and promiscuity. What keeps people from caring about themselves? What role do you think shame plays? What scripture passages have you encountered that have helped you understand the need to care about yourself? How does Abba’s love speak to our lack of self-care and our self-hatred?

4. Arlen indicates that he would do anything to get attention - so much so that he was repeatedly taken advantage of by gay men. How has your need for attention caused you to make decisions that you regret? Why do you think the need for attention is so important to us? Where did you find the attention that you need?

5. Arlen gave God six months to change him and to make Himself real. What do you think about making these kind of demands on God? Why do you think Arlen did this? How has desperation and futility made you open to the Gospel?

Title: Rescuing Kids - Part 3

Speaker: Clayton Golliher (also found in "Sex Trafficking – Male & Female")

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+908653c

1. The desire for affection is a biologically based desire. When our parents are unable to provide affection, we try to get that need met in other ways. Sadly we resort to unhealthy behaviors to try and satisfy the pain of the unmet need. How did you get your needs for affection met as a child? If it was not met, what did you do to satisfy your desire for affection?

2. Chris indicates that only God can transform us from who we are. Discuss this idea. In what ways would it make a difference in our choices if we believed and

embraced this truth?

3. Michelle leads a ministry to those involved in prostitution and stripping. She indicates that her purpose is to build a relationship with these girls, boys, men and women. Why is building a relationship with these individuals so important in the journey of bringing them to Christ and His transforming power?

4. According to Michelle, having a ministry that is continually “on the ground” on a weekly basis lets the young people know “we’re not going to leave you nor forsake you”. Why is regularity and relationship building so very important in such a ministry?

5. Jesus says you don’t take over the strong man’s house until the strong man is bound. Prayer is the manner that Clayton uses to bind the strong man. How is prayer effective in this type of ministry? How do you think they should pray to bind the strong man?

6. This ministry does not just reach out to the prostitutes, but also to the pimps. Why is this a good idea or a bad idea?

Title: Helping Homosexual Youth

Speaker: Scott Davis

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+3af9dd6

1. According to Scott, youth with homosexual confusion feel that they are “messed up” and that the truth that Christ loves them “as they are” is essential. Why do you think it is essential?

2. Sy Rogers provided research data on the effects of sexualized media on children - that these children are two times more likely to engage in premarital sex. What do you think parents can do about this? In what ways do you think media affects adults?

3. In the effort to help them find healing and peace, Scott recommends that young people read the Psalms and engage in intimate worship. Which Psalm gives you the most comfort? What is it about that Psalm that speaks to your heart? How has worship music made a difference in your journey toward healing?

4. What is important, according to Scott, is to not place expectations on God. Allow Him to work in His time and trust Him for it. What might be examples of realistic expectations of God in this regard?

5. Scott indicates that our experience of our earthly father gets projected onto our Heavenly Father. What was your father like? How did he treat you? How did your relationship with your earthly father help or hinder your love and trust of Abba Father?

6. Abba Father loves us and accepts us as we are. We can't influence Him to love us less, or more because His love is grounded in His love for His Son Jesus. What happens to someone's heart when they understand that they are already loved and accepted? What difference does this make in the decisions they make in life?

Title: Inspiring Abstinence in Teens

Speaker: Laura Gallier

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+953aa8b

1. Laura tells the “why” behind God’s command that we stay sexually pure. Sadly, most churches only teach the command. Why is knowing “why” an important component in the achievement of abstinence?

2. When we tell our kids to do something, and they ask “why”, most parents answer, “Because I told you.” Parents often say this because they don’t have an answer as to “why”. Lauren indicates that this is problematic. What message does a parent send to a child when they don’t answer the “why” question?

3. Sex is a bonding agent in marriage. When we have sex outside of marriage with numerous partners, we negatively affect the brain’s ability to bond in a healthy manner. Laura uses the illustration of sex being like a sticky note - the more you use it, the less adhesive it retains. In what ways has sex outside of marriage affected your ability to attach and bond to your spouse or others?

4. Laura addresses the issue of self-stimulation or masturbation. She indicates that a pattern is created whereby the moment of pleasure leads to feelings of shame, loneliness and emptiness. Why? Because it is

done alone and leaves us wanting. She indicates that masturbation can then become addictive. Discuss this and your thoughts about the addictive nature of masturbation.

5. How does the act of masturbation comport with God's design for sexuality and marriage?

6. Laura reveals that pornography creates an illusion about what the sexual relationship will be like. Thus, it leaves people disappointed when they get married because they had false expectations. Discuss the merits of this idea - how it affects relationships and marriage in particular?

7. According to Laura, "God has our best interest at heart". If God says "No" to something, it is because He has a protective nature. Thus, earthly parents must be protective as well. We do this by discipling our children and helping them to understand why God has asked them to wait. Scripture says we are to guard our hearts and minds. Parents are essential in this regard. What difference might this make in raising godly children?

Title: Secrets Teens Keep

Speakers: Jen Howver and Megan Hutchinson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+50354b1

1. Youth leaders, Jen and Megan, tell stories of young people who have lived lives filled with dark secrets and how they have helped them find freedom and healing by bringing them into the light of Jesus Christ. Which story impacted you the most and why?

2. Secrets affect our lives in negative ways. In what ways did Megan's secrets affect her life?

3. How does exposing a secret to someone who loves and believes in you help in the healing process? In what ways might the exposure of your secret to an unsafe person send your healing process in the wrong direction?

4. How are physical ailments related to secret keeping?

5. Sometimes people take drastic steps to keep their secrets hidden. Do these drastic steps bring more healing or fear? What steps have you taken in order to keep your secrets hidden? What was the result?

6. What do you think the link between secrets and addictions might be?

7. How have your secrets affected your life: emotionally, physically, and spiritually?

8. If you were to reveal your secret(s), whom would you trust to lead you, in love, to healing and deliverance?

Title: Moral Revolution

Speaker: Kris Vallotton

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c3f684f

1. Kris indicates that the hymen must be penetrated for vaginal sex to take place. He relates this to the biblical notion of "covenant". Discuss how the spilling of blood on the honeymoon and at the sacrifice of Christ were in some ways similar.

2. "The goal isn't to get rid of the sex drive but to manage your sexual appetite." This quote by Kris is

important because part of the sanctification process is learning to manage our appetites. He indicates that the Church often sends a message of shame concerning one's sex drive rather than focusing on the management of it (with Christ's help). What difference would it make if we were to focus on taming our sexual appetite rather than wallowing in our failures?

3. Kris states that cohabitation is rooted in insecurity and fear. On the other hand, "covenant marriage" creates security. Children conceived in marriage are a testimony of a couple's covenant love for each other. Research of cohabiting couples reveals that many choose that path because of their fear of divorce. Explain how fear robs us of God's love and prevents us from making healthy, godly choices in life.

4. Men are almost always the pursuers in their relationships with women. Christ is the pursuer of His Bride, the Church. The way a man pursues a woman in covenant marriage either reflects Christ's love, or it reflects another image. Marriage is meant to be a reflection of Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5). What does your marriage reflect? If you are single, what do your dating relationships reflect?

5. Managing our thoughts is essential to managing our sexual appetites. Since we are children of the King, we must see and conduct ourselves as nobility. This renewing of the mind and embracement of who Christ says we are in Him helps us in our thought life and in the choices that we make. In what ways does this kind of thinking renew and transform our minds (Romans 12)?

Title: At-Risk Kids in Hollywood - Part 1

Speakers: Ron & Judy Radachy

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+39a1be7

1. Ron says that when you use pornography, you are interacting with a fantasy rather than a real person and robbing yourself of something you can't get any other way - an intimate relationship with a spouse and with God. Discuss.

2. Judy speaks of how God replaces beauty for ashes. Has He done that in your life? If so, share that story with the group. What are some other ways that God replaces ashes for beauty?

3. Discuss the frustrations that you've had in your own life when you have tried to get free from a sexual bondage but failed. Discuss as a group what may have gone wrong and what might be a more biblical approach.

4. Ron says God can heal the past like nobody can. What are some ways that He does that?

5. The Oasis ministry rescues young people from the mean streets of Hollywood - kids who have no hope. According to Ron, 70% of all runaway male teens have been sexually abused. What does sexual abuse do to a boy or girl and how can their wounds be healed?

6. Why does promiscuous sex leave people so broken? What does the Bible say about sexual behavior outside of the covenant of marriage? What is the reason for such constrictions?

7. Ron says that freedom requires a change of heart as well as a change in behavior. How does that happen, especially for someone who believes that God doesn't love or care about them?

Title: At-Risk Kids in Hollywood - Part 2

Speakers: Ron & Judy Radachy

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b4faf5c

1. Ron says that you must approach teenagers in ways they can understand. What are some of those ways? Have you seen or experienced the fruit of that approach?

2. Judy says that you may be the only person in the life of a teenager who helps them see the errors in what the culture has been telling them, and that you can help them to avoid the things that often create a lifetime of brokenness. How does that approach work in the mind of a young person?

3. Ron says that when you come across with the practical, the spiritual begins to make more sense - that understanding is a far superior transformative agent than merely citing laws. As a result, they see God's love and wisdom wrapped around God's prescription for life and become more willing to follow Him. Discuss how this works in someone's mind and emotions.

4. Kids need to first know that they are loved and wanted before they will listen to you and open up to God's ways. How might our evangelistic practices be altered in order to work in concert with love?

5. Judy told one well-groomed rape victim that what she had experienced was not really love but an evil that had created a cancer in her soul. According to the Bible, what is genuine love and how does it bring healing to such a cancer?

6. Many teens have told the Radachys that they were created gay and are therefore justified in having sex with a member of their own gender. Is that true, and if not, how should a believer respond to such claims?

7. Judy says, "Just keep loving them and offering them the hope that is in Christ". How has that approach changed your life and/or the life of someone you know?

Freedom & Deliverance

Title: Sexual Immorality & Deliverance

Speaker: Doris Wagner

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+8ce50d5

1. Do you usually ignore the demonic realm while in ministry to someone? If yes, what are some of the reasons for that?

2. Doris Wagner notes that people in the deliverance ministry usually get cornered into it. If that is true in your case, please share how it happened.

3. What gave Doris the power and authority to speak to the demonic and see it obey?

4. According to Doris, what are the two swords that believers have in this ministry?

5. Where in the Bible does it say that one of the signs that the Kingdom of God has come to earth is the authority (in Jesus' name) that believers have over the demonic realm?

6. If you have harbored an inordinate fear of the demonic realm, ask the Lord to begin surfacing the reasons and to lead you into a healing in this area.

7. Do a study of the use of Jesus' "name" by New Testament characters in order to prepare yourself to minister with more confidence in this area of spiritual warfare.

8. Read books like How to Minister Freedom: Helping Others Break the Bonds by Doris Wagner and Spiritual Warfare for Every Christian by Dean Sherman and to equip yourself even further.

9. Doris often encounters spirits of anger, as well as man or woman-hating spirits in child abuse survivors. Describe your experience with these kinds of spirits.

10. Doris says that sometimes a child abuse victim is infected by a transfer of demons from his or her

perpetrator. For example, she has observed that sometimes demons of lust transfer into the victim from the perpetrator. Could that be one reason why some victims grow up to abuse others in the same way, or end up as sex addicts or prostitutes? Discuss this phenomenon. How can it be rectified?

11. Discuss Doris' suggestion that it is best to deal with the person's inner hurts first and then any demonic elements.

12. Doris recommends the closing of legal doors -i.e., asking the Holy Spirit to reveal the sin path by which a demon gained a legal right to harass a person, and then encouraging the person to repent of and renounce those sins, thereby removing the legal ground for the spirit to remain. What do you think about this strategy?

13. Doris has noticed that some victims of rape seem to have an unseen mark in their soul that other demonized people can recognize that makes them a target for additional attacks. Have you noticed this phenomenon in your ministry? How would you pray for such a person?

14. In many cases, the sins of the fathers have been

clearly passed down the generational line. Has praying over this issue brought results in your ministry? Have you prayed over your own family to sever any such curse? What are the limitations of such a prayer?

15. Pastors are targets of the evil one because of the spiritual covering that they provide for their flock. These days, they seem particularly vulnerable to pornography, masturbation and sexual affairs. Why is that? How can they be better protected from this targeting by the enemy?

16. Doris recommends that a fallen pastor go through a 2-year (minimum) restoration program and that when allowed back into ministry (if ever), be required to work their way back up to the position they had when they fell. What are your thoughts and ideas on this issue?

17. What sins of your family have been transferred generationally? How have these generational sins affected you?

18. What “legal doors” into the demonic realm might you have left unaddressed that keep you vulnerable to spiritual attack?

19. Organize an ongoing spiritual warfare covering for your pastor with others in the church who are gifted in this area of prayer.

20. Doris suggests that prayer to break soul ties helps free a person to begin the process of forgiving those who've hurt them. Have you found this to be true? How does Doris suggest we pray?

21. In ministering to a homosexual, Doris recommends that a full examination of the person's childhood be undertaken before deliverance prayers are prayed (if needed). Why is this important?

22. Doris says that the most common demonic spirits that she finds in cases of homosexual confusion are rejection and lust - demonization that is often the result of the child having been born out of wedlock. She adds, "A child conceived in lust, often struggles with lust". Discuss this problem and its solution.

23. Sometimes a problem returns even after lengthy deliverance ministry. In such cases, Doris sees two likely causes: 1. the original ministry did not get to the bottom of the problem; 2. the person has invited the problem

back in via sinful thoughts and behaviors. Discuss additional possible causes and the best way to handle each situation.

24. Doris says that believers have power to resist temptation that others don't have. Where is that indicated in Scripture? Has that been your experience?

25. The short summary given at the end of the program for ministering deliverance was: Renounce - Remove - Counsel. What brief summary can you come up with that might be even better?

26. What do you think has kept you from forgiving those who have offended against you?

27. What were the family circumstances while you were in the womb and in the first few years of your life? What messages (spoken or unspoken) did you receive from your parents about your value, worth, and acceptance?

28. How do you think these messages might relate to the spiritual warfare in your life?

29. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, lay out a very

specific plan for more effectively utilizing the authority that Christ has conferred upon you as His servant and friend.

Title: Sexual Sin & Deliverance – Part 1

Speaker: Peter Horrobin

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4cafb0e

1. Peter Horrobin states that soul ties come out of relationships, whether good or bad. For example, in the Bible the soul tie between Jonathan & David was a good one. The soul tie created by sex with a prostitute is an example of a bad one. Have you ever heard of soul ties? Have you ever experienced freedom from having bad ties broken in prayer? Share your thoughts and experiences.

2. Sexual relationships outside of marriage create bad soul ties that need to be confessed and broken in prayer. How is this done?

3. Peter Horrobin describes sexual relations as being a joining of spirit, soul and body. Share your

understanding of the dynamics involved, using biblical examples when possible.

4. Confession and repentance are necessary to break an ungodly soul tie. How did Peter Horrobin define the difference between confession and repentance?

5. Peter says that there is often a demonic element involved in an ungodly soul tie. Why might that be the case?

6. Why is God the only one who can undo a soul tie?

7. How did Peter define “worship” and the receiving of “spirit” in the process?

8. According to the Bible, how did Satan become the god of this world?

9. Peter Horrobin suggests that our obedience to the voice of the evil one is a form of worship, which gives him the right to impart evil spirits into our lives. Discuss this idea.

10. Describe a positive soul tie that you have experienced in the past. What was it like for you to have this relationship?

11. Describe a negative soul tie you have experienced in the past. How was it different from your positive soul tie?

12. Identify aspects of spiritual warfare in your negative soul tie.

13. In what ways was holding on to your negative soul-tie giving honor to Satan?

14. Peter notes that Satan's rebellion consists of enticing men and angels to obey him rather than God, thereby taking God's worship to himself. In what ways do we do the same thing?

15. According to Peter Horrobin, what is the difference between power and authority? After initially having it stripped from him by God, how did Satan regain authority?

16. God initially gave authority of the earth to man, but

according to Peter Horrobin, Adam and Eve sold that inheritance for a bowl of pottage when they obeyed Satan rather than God. Discuss the ramifications of the inheritance of a sin nature (-i.e., original sin) that everyone since “The Fall” has received at conception, as well as God’s ultimate solution to the problem.

17. If we live under the authority of the one we obey, what is the answer to our obedience to the evil one?

18. How do the “sins of the fathers” play into all of this? Are the children affected when their spiritual covering is faulty?

19. As Peter described it, why was Jesus, as a human being, above Satan’s authority?

20. In what ways do the concepts of power and authority play themselves out in your sexual sins?

21. As a Christian you are imbued with power from the Holy Spirit. What keeps you from reaching out and using this power to overcome the spiritual battles you face, especially in regard to sexual sins?

22. Pray and ask the Father to show you what to do differently to reach out and use His strength. Write out at least three ways you can practically do this when tempted to commit sexual sin.

23. With God's help, evaluate the "covering" that you have been providing for your family. If necessary, pray the appropriate prayers, do the appropriate spiritual warfare, and make the appropriate changes in your way of life.

24. Discuss Peter Horrobin's description of authority and how it is delegated. Use biblical examples.

25. What does it mean to do or say something "in the name of Jesus"?

26. Our prayers are supposed to be prayed "in the name of Jesus". When prayed in faith, what difference does such a prayer make in regard to deliverance, transformation and/or healing?

27. What are some of the consequences of unbelief? Give biblical examples.

28. Why is a person's "free will" so critical in deliverance?

29. What takes away the right that demons have gained in a person's life to exert influence and/or control?

30. Share your experience with the demonic realm and the ways you have seen God work to overcome its influence in your life or the lives of your loved ones.

31. How has unbelief in the promises of God for healing and strength prevented you from overcoming sexual sin?

32. Describe a situation where demonization has played a role in your sexual struggles. How is this different than merely fighting your flesh?

33. Read Peter Horrobin's classic book, Healing Through Deliverance: The Foundation & Practice of Deliverance Ministry.

Title: Sexual Sin & Deliverance – Part 2

Speaker: Peter Horrobin

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+5d39862

1. How does Peter Horrobin define confession? What can you add to his definition?

2. What is it about sexual sin that makes it all the more important to confess the sin to another human being?

3. Peter describes the ministry of deliverance as one of dealing with the strongholds behind a person's bondage. What sorts of strongholds might there be?

4. What is it about forgiving others that makes that a necessary part of receiving the flow of God's power, love and forgiveness in our lives?

5. Peter describes forgiveness as involving not just words, but an attitude of the heart. Discuss the details of this idea.

6. Discuss the biblical concepts behind Peter's claim that forgiveness is not a matter of deserving, but of grace and mercy.

7. Describe the difference between trust (which has to be earned in relationship) and forgiveness (which is an unearned gift) and apply that difference to examples from your own life.

8. Finish this sentence: “To forgive someone is to . . . .” (-e.g., ... set yourself free from bondage to them).

9. In what ways have you found it difficult to confess your sexual sins and why?

10. Who do you still hold grudges against? List them according to their relationship with you. What do you want/need from the above people that would help you reach a point of forgiveness? Ask God for a breakthrough.

11. Forgiveness does not restore trust. What would you need/want in order to trust the offending persons?

12. Peter described how important it is for a female sex abuse survivor to eventually receive ministry from a man so that she can learn to trust healthy men again. Discuss the wisdom and pitfalls of such an idea.

13. Stage 1 of Hanna's healing process was choosing to forgive. Have you found it impossible to forgive someone who deeply hurt you in the past? How have you dealt with that roadblock?

14. Stage 2 of Hanna's healing process was beginning to trust those who were ministering to her. How does that happen?

15. Stage 3 of Hanna's healing process was forgiving each episode of offense as God revealed them to her in prayer. Do we need to dredge up every episode of offense? If there are only certain episodes that the Lord will bring to the memory for forgiveness, what might there be about those episodes that make them necessary to consciously address?

16. Peter told a story about a woman who associated sex with pain, using a "bucket of sand and teaspoon" illustration to show how healing occurs in difficult situations like that. What are some other scenarios that might necessitate lengthy, piecemeal processes like that?

17. Make a list of what forgiveness is, and a list of what it is not.

18. Choose one individual from your “grudge list”. Write down their name and the offense that you find hard to forgive. What keeps you from forgiving that person? What keeps you from trusting them?

19. What difference would forgiving this person make in your life and your sexual struggles?

20. If there is a person and/or incident that you find impossible to forgive, ask the Father to impart to you His capacity to forgive them. Wait for and receive His impartation by faith and then simply pass it on.

21. The immediate spiritual covering for children is their parents. What are the consequences to the children if their parents engage in idolatrous sin?

22. If the parents lead a godly life, their children receive a godly spiritual heritage that can extend for a thousand generations. Discuss your family’s spiritual heritage and the consequences you have seen from it.

23. Discuss Peter’s example of Karen and the physical infirmities that were associated with her mother’s sin. Can you think of friends or relatives that might need

repentance and prayer in this regard?

24. In some cases, the consequences of parental sin can skip one or two generations, only to show up in grandchildren or great-grandchildren. Additionally, sometimes the consequences are physical and other times they are demonic in nature. How can one discern the differences and how should one pray in such cases?

25. Peter noted that even though the sins of the fathers only get passed down to the third or fourth generation, when a new generation takes up the sin, a new line of three to four affected generations begins. Where does the Scripture indicate a way to put a stop to such family-line curses?

26. In what ways are you living out the consequences of your parent's sinful choices?

27. What would you need to do to break free from the generational sins of your forefathers?

28. What keeps you from doing this?

29. Begin the process of breaking free through prayer

today. Ask the Father to cover your parent's sins in the blood of Jesus. Renounce any demonic strongholds they sent down, as well as the one's you have built in your life. If possible, partner in prayer with a Christian mentor, prayer warrior or counselor.

Special Segment: David's Q&A - "How to Know the Voice of God"

1. What are the ways that God speaks to people in general?

2. What are the ways that God speaks to believers?

3. What are the distinguishing marks of God's voice?

4. What are the distinguishing marks of Satan's voice?

5. What are the distinguishing marks of our own thoughts?

6. How is discernment of these voices developed?

7. What has your experience been in hearing the voice of

God?

8. Do a study on incidents in the Bible when people heard the voice of God, noting the kinds of messages, their tenor, their timing, their audience, their content and the expectation of a response from the hearer.

9. Read several good books on the subject, such as Hearing God by Peter Lord, The Joy of Listening to God by Joyce Huggett and Leanne Payne's book, Listening Prayer.

10. Survey your friends for stories of hearing God's voice, whether out loud or via the more common path of a still, small inner voice.

Title: Sex and the Demonic

Speaker: Peter Horrobin

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a1422c0

1. Peter says that demonic spirits take on the nature of

our sin. He stated that if we sin sexually, the spirit comes in as lust. If this is true, what difference would it make in how you choose to live your life? What new understanding is provided for the areas of your life you struggle in and find it difficult to overcome?

2. Peter quotes Nehemiah 1 where Nehemiah confesses his sins and the sins of his ancestors. Demonic spirits are covered by sin patterns that are passed on generationally. What sin patterns are in your generations and what are your thoughts about the need to confess the sins of your ancestors?

3. Peter states that some demonic spirits will only be dealt with by Christ at His return but that we do not have to live under their control if we would choose to live a "godly and clean life." What would be the first step you would need to take to begin living out this different path for your life? (Note: for some of you it might be coming to Christ and accepting Him as your Lord and Savior).

4. Christians need deliverance too. Christians can "have a demon" but can never be "possessed" (owned) by a demon. What ways do you think sexual sins open the

door for someone to “have a demon”?

5. Those who have Christ as Savior and possess the Holy Spirit have the ability to speak with authority over the demonic realm through Christ. What hope does this give to those who have believed that their sexual struggles are impossible to defeat?

6. Besetting Sins. These are mentioned in the book of Hebrews and we are told to lay them aside. Besetting sins are those sins that we are addicted to, or are deeply ingrained in our life pattern. How can a person resist an addictive sin pattern?

7. Peter mentions that we can be free through “truth”. He points out that if we “do the things that Jesus tells us to do, (that means being a disciple), we will then know the truth and the truth will set us free.” We are free when we DO the truth, not just know it. What keeps you from living out the truth? What truth do you need to live out to find your freedom? What would you need to do differently to live the truth that will set you free?

Title: The Truth Will Set You Free

Speaker: Peter Horrobin

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+792f074

1. It is not enough to KNOW the Truth - we must depend on it according to Peter. What is the difference between the two and what makes that difference significant?

2. A disciple is a student who does what the teacher instructs. That means that freedom will not come without obedience. It is putting into practice what Jesus teaches. Why do some people not practice what they know and claim they believe?

3. “God is a restorer of destinies” - an exciting statement that should be especially helpful for those who feel deep shame, guilt, helplessness or hopelessness. How does this statement give hope for the sexually broken?

4. Ephesians 4:17-18 talks about ungodly thinking vs. godly thinking. Peter says we are what we think we are. If our thoughts are dark then our destinies will be dark. If our thoughts are those of light (Christ) then we will walk in light and our destiny will be formed according to

His riches. The consequence of ignorance is hardness of the heart. What relationship does sexual brokenness have to do with living in darkness and hardness of heart towards God?

5. According to James 5:16, confessing our sins to one another brings about healing. That requires humility on our part. Discuss the role of humility and confession vs. pride and the refusal to forsake sin. How does the former free the heart to love and serve God?

Title: Deliverance - Part 1

Speaker: Becca Greenwood

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+85d5ccd

1. According to Becca, one indication of a need for deliverance is when a person is in a repeated pattern of a sin that they cannot control. What patterns have you noticed in your life? In your family generations?

2. A “Soul Tie” is a spiritual and emotional connection between two individuals. Harmful soul ties are created

through ungodly sexual relationships or when one gives him/herself over to the control of another. Can you spot a soul tie behind your sexual struggles? Who do you believe was involved in its creation? How did it begin? Are you ready to break that tie?

3. In order to find freedom and deliverance we must ask the Holy Spirit to release a “word of knowledge” or a “word of wisdom”. These “words” will reveal insights into the roots of our problem and/or the way of escape. Have you have ever had someone speak a word of knowledge/wisdom over you? If yes, did you listen? Did it bear fruit? If no, why not?

4. In order for someone to find deliverance he/she must have Christ as Savior. When did you come to Christ as Savior and what impact has that had on your life? If you have not come to salvation through Christ, what stops you?

5. Becca points out that once a person has been delivered of something, a godly thing must fill the void that has been created. For example, to be released from impurity, one must replace it with purity. If you were to let go of your sin, what would you need to replace it

with?

6. What would you need to rid yourself of in order to find and maintain freedom?

7. Becca states that Christians have divine authority and that we can activate and exercise that authority by faith through our relationship with Christ. What difference would it make in your life if you were to act on the authority you possess in Christ?

Title: Deliverance - Part 2

Speaker: Becca Greenwood

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+e62966a

1. Becca discusses the demonic influences behind homosexuality. She says that during her deliverance prayers for them, she often encounters much “perversion and whoredom” in their lives. What do you think she means by this?

2. Becca indicates that in her experience with those who are involved in the homosexual lifestyle, she often finds deep parental wounds. What role do you think the demonic plays in the wound from a parent and the choices one makes after being wounded?

3. Demonic powers gain influence through sin, brokenness, and wounds left unhealed. Each time we commit sinful acts, they gain more influence and power. Even a mental embrace of sinful thoughts and fantasies will eventually lead to the creation of demonic strongholds. Discuss this more subtle path to bondage and what to do about it.

4. It should be noted that demonic temptations are different from “temptations of the heart” (Matthew 15:19). Temptations of the heart are a direct result of what we have allowed ourselves to watch, listen to, and dwell on - or even what we haven’t been doing, such as prayer and other spiritual disciplines. The response to these is confession and repentance. What are your “temptations of the heart” and how do they affect you personally and relationally?

5. Lust is a selfish greed to use someone for one’s own

pleasure. Discuss the connection between lust and "temptations of the heart"?

6. Demonic-borne temptations have a strong element of power and are not typically related to anything going on in your life. They appear out of nowhere and cannot be traced to sinful choices. The answer to this kind is aggressive spiritual warfare prayer as well as support from others in the Body of Christ. We are to stand our ground during such assaults and run to Christ. Have you experienced this kind of temptation? How do you escape its grip?

7. "Not being good enough" was the theme Becca had to deal with most of her life. It was a voice of condemnation that constantly spoke over her. Finally, she saw a vision of her name being written in gold. Jesus came to her with unconditional love and forgiveness and told her to take up her cross and follow Him. He then said: "it is finished". These words helped her become free from guilt, shame and the belief that she was not good enough. How does intimacy with Abba Father through Christ Jesus bring healing to our hearts and overturn the lies of Satan? (Read Romans 8:1)

Title: Healing the Orphan Spirit

Speaker: Leif Hetland

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+92aecd0

1. How does Leif define an orphan spirit? In what way do you live out this definition in your own life?

2. Leif mentions that “pain always seeks pleasure” as an understanding for his rebellion and ungodly lifestyle. In what ways do you seek pleasure to hide from your pain?

3. Leif reveals that there are two primary ways the orphan spirit is manifested: one through rebellion and addiction and second, through religiosity. Why do you think that the orphan spirit gets manifested in these two primary ways?

4. Leif states, “doctrine is what unifies us in an orphanage” as he is relating to the manner in which churches conduct themselves. Unpack this statement.

5. When we live as an orphan we live “for” God, and when we live as a son/daughter, we live “from” God. What is the difference?

6. Leif indicates that three things change when we begin to live as sons and daughters. Our identity is restored, our dignity is restored and we begin to dream Abba’s dreams. Discuss these three changes in relationship to your life experience.

7. When love touches the areas of our lives where we struggle with guilt and shame, love heals. What do you think keeps us from allowing His love to touch our deepest struggles?

Title: Purity Through Intimacy with God

Speaker: Dr. Robert Currie

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+dcbf39d

1. Dr. Currie indicates that we are most vulnerable to sexual sin when we are lonely. How does a relationship with God help with our aloneness?

2. We are most fully ourselves when we are in intimate relationship according to Dr. Currie. How will an intimate relationship with our Heavenly Father make us more whole, complete, and enable us to walk with power?

3. Dr. Currie quotes the following: “There is no such thing as safe sex because there is no condom that can protect the heart.” Discuss this thought and its implications for one’s life and relationships with God, others and self.

4. When we engage with someone sexually, we engage them not just physically, but spiritually and emotionally. How have people harmed themselves through sexual encounters with others outside of marriage? How does marital sex protect the heart?

5. Dr. Currie discusses the need to turn to prayer for dealing with our struggles. He recommends praying Paul’s prayers or Christ’s prayers from Scripture. What other ways can we pray that will help us build intimacy with Abba Father?

6. Dr. Currie shared the story of how he expressed anger

towards God as it related to an incident with his son. While this level of transparency is encouraged by Dr. Currie, he warns that after we share our hurts, we must stay and listen for His voice. Why would this be important?

7. “Sexuality is not what we do but who we are” - a profound statement by Dr. Currie. Discuss sexuality as a part of our being rather than as action. Embracing this difference would make a difference in our lives. What kind of difference would it make and how would it lead us to deeper connections to God the Father?

8. According to Dr. Currie, intimacy with God is difficult because many believe that God is “out to get them”. What does this view of God say about ourselves and how can it affect our sexual choices?

Title: Cleansing Stream Ministries

Speaker: Chris Hayward

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+684e712

1. Chris indicates that even Christians need deliverance from many issues that keep them from maturing in Christ, and that dealing with a “spirit of rejection” is the key. He refers to rejection as a malady of the human soul. How has rejection affected your life and the choices you have made?

2. The fear of rejection causes us to hide ourselves and even to act in ways that are inconsistent with who we are. How has a fear of rejection played itself out in your life?

3. Rejection is the absence of love according to Chris. What have you done in the past to try and get love from others? Are they healthy or unhealthy? Why or why not?

4. Chris points out that Father God will never leave us nor abandon us. This speaks to our fear of rejection and to the unconditional love of Abba Father. If we were to embrace this truth, what difference would it make in our ability to deal with rejection and to grow and mature spiritually and emotionally?

5. The words we speak impact others. The words spoken over us also have an impact on our feeling loved or

rejected. What messages did you get from your childhood that you still live with? What does Scripture say about you that contradicts the negative messages of childhood? What does Christ's death on the cross say about you being lovable?

Title: Helping Broken People

Speaker: Andy Reese

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c9b9fea

1. Andy indicates that childhood memories, and in particular events, helped to shape what we became as adults. These events may have been painful because of a child's interpretation of what the event meant to the child. Discuss this idea and its implications for taking responsibility and for casting blame.

2. Andy says we operate from three screens: 1. our sense and drives, 2. memory and analysis, and 3. imagination and intuition. God can use the imagination and intuition screen to help us heal. Talk about these three screens and how God uses each to shape us and direct us.

3. Satan can plant thoughts into one's mind. He plants temptations and we think that they are our own thoughts. According to Andy, how can we discern the origin of those thoughts and temptations?

4. God's Word exposes our heart. One ministry given to believers is to speak truth and to "scatter the seed". God's job is to cause the seed to grow. But, what keeps some seeds from growing? Are there ways in which counselors contribute to the inability of people to be healed? What do you do that keeps you from healing?

5. Prayer can bring freedom to bound and broken people. The Holy Spirit leads and directs our prayers as we follow Him. What keeps you from praying? Pray right now and ask God the Father to bring to your awareness those parts of your life that still need healing. If you need further help, seek out a mature counselor. And if you are not a Christian, turn from your sins, pray and receive Christ as your Lord, Savior, Healer, Deliverer, Comforter, Friend and Guide.

Title: How to Love & Be Loved - Part 1

Speaker: Dr. John Townsend

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7aad627

1. Sexual brokenness issues are love issues according to Dr. Townsend - love issues with God, self and others. He also observes that broken people have usually had a disruption in their ability to love and be loved. How has the lack of love affected your life and decisions?

2. “Nobody feels loved when they feel shame”. This is a true statement. How has shame kept you from giving and receiving love?

3. Honesty and love are two necessary components for healing (Psalm 85). What happens if you strive with only one of these, -i.e., honesty without love, or love without honesty? What keeps people from being willing to be honest?

4. In order for honesty to take place we need to find those who image the character of God. Where can such people be found? Where have you looked?

5. 1 Peter 4:1 states that we are the stewards of God’s manifold grace. People then are a key delivery system

for God's grace. Are you a conduit or a hindrance? How would you know the difference?

6. Discuss the power that grace has to heal one's soul.

Title: Loving God When Life is Tough - Part 2

Speaker: John Townsend, PhD

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9b94560

1. According to Dr. Townsend, the fact that God suffers with us is the most powerful of truths. How does such knowledge bring freedom from one's sexual struggles?

2. "Containing" is when a mother holds an angry child close to her and soothes the child rather than taking their anger personally. This causes the child to calm down and experience peace. How does God do this to us? In what ways has God shown you the same love and acceptance? How is the Church of Christ crucial to this process of communicating love and acceptance to others?

3. Love is a foundation where life-changes can take place and sustain themselves. Thus, we have to be able to receive love in order to give love. What ways have you prevented yourself from receiving love? What are the reasons for this? How has your inability to receive love affected your life and choices?

4. Humans are sexual beings. Love is not sexual but can become sexualized. How have you sexualized love? What needs were you trying to meet by doing so?

5. When we live in God's truth and grace we experience love in its most mature expression. How do you enter into the experience of God's love and by what means? How does this differ from merely sitting and listening to a sermon?

Title: Healing Father Wounds

Speaker: Gordon Dalbey

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c949aec

1. "Manhood requires fathering". Discuss your thoughts

about this statement and its implications to life, love, and maturity.

2. Pornography speaks to fatherless men in particular. It provides a counterfeit grace, from images that are only two-dimensional. Men don't have to relate to them in a personal way. Their pursuit of pornography is powered by a fear of intimacy and by an ignorance of the true nature of masculinity. How are a fear of intimacy and a lack of true masculinity linked together?

3. "A real man is a man who is real." True masculinity is not just about strength but also about being emotionally open and honest about one's thoughts and feelings. Do you agree with this definition? Why or why not?

4. Christian men can turn to their heavenly Father for the development of true masculinity. The Holy Spirit can heal father wounds and create in them healthy masculinity. Jesus says that if we have seen Him we have seen the Father (John 14). Why do you think men find it difficult to be open and vulnerable? How do women and/or the culture contribute to this lack of openness and vulnerability?

5. Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us. Boys need the tenderness and nurture of being held by their dad. Abba Father, through His Spirit, can do this during times of pain and hurt. How did a lack of tenderness and nurturing by your earthly father affect your life? What did it teach you about your masculinity or being a man?

Title: Healing Emotional Wounds - Part 1

Speakers: Chester and Betsy Kylstra

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+723f349

1. Demonic forces pass through the generations. These are called “sins of the fathers” or ancestral curses. What ancestral curses have you been affected by? Ask the Lord to show you if there are any more and what to do about them.

2. Ungodly beliefs that pass on are: 1. there is something wrong with me, 2. nobody wants to be with me, and 3. I have to take care of myself. How have these core beliefs influenced your life and what does the Bible have to say about them?

3. According to Betsy, generational sins and curses had to be broken before demonic influences could be removed. The sins must be confessed and dealt with as these are the roots that permit the demonic to remain. What curses do you still have that you fear renouncing?

4. Generational sins pass down to the third and fourth generations. What generational sins could you be passing down? What keeps you from confessing these to Christ and seeking deliverance from them? Pray and ask the Lord to remove your generational curses and confess the one's you are passing along. Claim your future and future generations for Christ.

5. If you know that you have passed unconfessed and unrenounced generational sins down to your offspring, ask God to remove those influences from their lives. If they are of age, have them pray with you for that deliverance.

Title: Healing Emotional Wounds - Part 2

Speakers: Chester and Betsy Kylstra

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/

media/mi/+ec4b118

1. Ancestral sin, ungodly beliefs and the need to have our heart healed: These three give legal ground to the demonic to influence our lives. Talk about each of these in regard to your own life history.

2. God cares about what has happened to you. Betsy indicates that this is what we all want to know and feel in our heart and spirit. How has the belief that God didn't care about what happened to you influenced your life? How has this affected your spiritual walk with God the Father?

3. Betsy and Chester encourage us to cry out to God and ask Him for healing, yet oftentimes we don't really believe that He will. God is waiting to heal us yet wants to honor His Word, too. Thus our family curses must be confessed and repentance made. What are your sin barriers?

4. Pray over your family-line sin curses. Confess and repent of them and ask Christ for deliverance, healing and the removal of any demonic spirits that are attached.

5. “Sexual imprinting” is the idea that our first sexual experience makes an imprint in our soul. The imprint of sinful behavior drives us toward even more sexual sin. Ask Christ to erase the imprint and heal the wounded soul.

Title: God’s Grace - Part 1

Speaker: Malcolm Smith

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+c91bb67

1. Jesus sometimes socialized with those who betrayed their own people - tax collectors for example. He intentionally and deliberately entered into relationship with them. Similarly, He offers love, acceptance and relationship to those who have betrayed the very God who created them. What does this mean for you and your life?

2. Forgiveness of sin by Jesus means that we are at peace with God. What difference does that make to your life now and in eternity?

3. Malcolm indicates that the word “lost” is important because it implies that something of great value is missing. But if you don’t treasure something, you won’t see it as lost. How does it affect your sense of worth and value to know that Jesus offers to retrieve what you have lost because of sin?

4. As you listened to Malcolm describe the great love and grace of Jesus Christ, what feelings were triggered inside you? Discuss those feelings and pray a prayer of gratitude for God’s great love, acceptance, and willingness to be your Abba Father.

5. Have you ever thought that you were unforgivable? The fact that He forgives any person, no matter their history, reveals how special mankind is to Him. Our sins are not more powerful than God’s love! What does this knowledge mean to you and what difference does it make in your daily walk with Him?

Title: God’s Grace - Part 2

Speaker: Malcolm Smith

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/

media/mi/+a7be2c6

1. Malcolm states that God does not have love; rather He is love. What difference does this make in your life and faith?

2. The prodigal's self-hatred and shame meant that he could not accept himself as being his father's son. Yet, the father speaks words of love into his darkened heart. What did this do to the young prodigal's heart? If applicable, what did it do to your heart?

3. In what ways is the prodigal much like the tax collector?

4. The older brother in the story of the prodigal son is representative of people who live like Pharisees. How has your life been like that of the Pharisees? What does this attitude do to your ability to love and receive love?

5. Malcolm helps us understand the father's response to the older son. He woos him by calling him "my dear, dear son." What does this say about his love for the son who had done all he was asked but who harbored pride, jealousy and judgment in his heart?

6. Scripture tells us that God is love. It constitutes His very being. So when He judges, it is love judging. What meaning does this have for us today? How might this affect your hidden fears of God?

7. Performance-based theology places the responsibility for being loved on our shoulders. However, the Gospel reveals that we are already accepted and loved. We cannot earn it. How does this truth set our hearts free to love, to live and to experience Christ fully?

Title: How Truth Sets People Free

Speaker: Craig Hill

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+a2ee17d

1. Craig indicates that the leading reason Christians are stuck in sinful behaviors and bondages is that they have chosen to believe lies. Where do the lies we believe come from? What has influenced the lies you believe?

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says that in Christ all things have become new. What became new according to Craig?

Since our spirits are made new, what are the implications regarding our mind, will, emotions, and bodies?

3. Craig indicates that traumatic events are not what keeps us in bondage but the impartation of the lie we believe, which becomes embedded in our heart. What lies have you believed? (Example: I am not good enough, I am unloving, I am weak, I am destined to live this way because this is who I am, etc.)

4. Truth is the antidote to the lies we believe. What does Craig suggest as the outcome of healing lies with truth?

5. What keeps us from allowing the Lord to set us free from the lies we believe? What keeps us from choosing to believe truth?

6. Gain freedom from the lies you believe by renouncing them (in Jesus' name) as the falsehoods that they are and believing what God has revealed to you as truth.

Title: God's Grace for the Orphaned Spirit - Part 1

Speaker: Dudley Hall

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+fb337c3

1. Dudley says early in the video that Adam and Eve lived life in the Garden of Eden with God's provision, pleasure, protection and purpose. It was all created so that they could enjoy intimacy with Him. Thus Adam and Eve enjoyed God as a Father. What does this say about our need for God as Father?

2. It is when we live as sons in partnership with our Father that we can accomplish great things. How did sin affect this partnership and what mindset do you think it gave Adam and Eve afterwards?

3. Sin created an "orphan" mindset - that we don't live as sons and daughters, but those who must strive to earn our way back into the Father's heart. Thus orphans are vulnerable to a performance-based existence. How has the orphan mindset affected your ability to love and be loved?

4. On the Cross, Jesus took upon Himself all of our "orphanity" so we could become sons and daughters again. How does this make your heart feel? What does

your mind tell you? What does gratitude prompt you to want to do?

5. Evidence of an orphan spirit is found in those who constantly search for ways to be loved more by God. How does the death and resurrection of Jesus speak against this orphan spirit?

6. Living our faith from a desire for intimacy and relationship with Abba is the evidence of spiritual "sonship" (Romans 8:15-16). How would living by this spirit make a difference in your choices, emotions, and relationships? Pray for a spirit of sonship and renounce the orphan spirit.

Title: God's Grace for the Orphaned Spirit - Part 2

Speaker: Dudley Hall

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+b08779f

1. Legalism is a religion that works without the presence of God. Legalists become moralists and see faith as an ethic. The presence of God as "Abba" (Daddy) is not

something they are comfortable with. Share your experience with legalism and legalists.

2. How does legalism cause us to live in fear and frustration and rob us of rest and peace?

3. For the orphaned legalist, the keeping of rules determines their closeness to God. Love-based relationship, however, focuses on intimacy with God based solely on His love. It focuses on His presence. How does a loving relationship with Him set us free to live in His joy?

4. Romans 8 suggests that the antidote to legalism is a life of liberty that is grounded in God's Spirit and Christ's death. Walking in the Spirit keeps me focused on my role as a son in the family of God rather than an orphan trying to make myself loveable. Think about the times you have lived in the Spirit. How was your life different?

5. God says He defines me by His Spirit in me. Pray and thank God the Father that He is your Daddy and that you are His son or daughter. Ask Him to help you live in His presence rather than by that Law that kept you

bound as an orphan.

Title: Right Brain Therapy - Part 1

Speaker: Jerry Mungadze, PhD

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+e0c73ac

1. Jerry indicates that many problems are a result of the brain and the trauma it has experienced. Discuss this in light of some who teach that all of the problems that humans experience are the result of their own sin.

2. Jerry's research shows that certain colors reveal information about issues that a person is struggling with. He mentions that in the one drawing he was holding, the color pattern indicated that the individual was having spiritual battles. Discuss your thoughts about the interplay between brain and spirit.

3. Jerry reveals that the brain has the ability to deal with shame by locking the associated family traumas away. Why do you think the Lord developed our brains in this manner? How does the brain's need for equilibrium (as

Jerry described) relate to keeping ourselves balanced emotionally?

4. Jerry gives a biological reason for transgender and homosexual confusion. It involves the biology of the brain and how it responds to trauma. Many claim that these problems are merely sin issues. Yet, Dr. Mungadze claims that there is a biological and social component to the development of these problems. What are your thoughts about this? Discuss this in your group.

5. The “thalamus” holds memory fragments that are not processed into a story. This indicates that our hurts and pains must be processed into a story based on what is true - not on what the person believes to be true. How does God’s Word help us in processing our trauma stories?

6. Discuss this teaching by Dr. Mungadze in light of Romans 12:2, where we are told to be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

Title: Right Brain Therapy - Part 2

Speaker: Jerry Mungadze, PhD

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4ff5855

1. Jerry's use of "brain mapping" gives him great insight into a person's struggles. He says that our brains have the ability to tell us what we need in order to be healed. Discuss this concept.

2. Jerry says that he knows if a person is a believer based on their brain map. He claims that the person's brain filters its experiences through their faith. Have you noticed how your brain filters input through your faith? Explain.

3. "Just because you think one way doesn't mean it is who you are." This statement seems to contradict the scriptural teaching: "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7) But it doesn't. Do you remember how Jerry described the heart? How is this "heart" different from the rational mind?

4. The hypothalamus is the regulator of the brain. When outside stimuli get filtered through one's faith, it helps a person make decisions about what to do. However the thought patterns can still be a problem. How does God's

Word help in changing thought patterns that have been developed through trauma?

5. “People confuse identity with what happens to them.” Jerry is indicating that our problems are not our feelings, but the trauma that led to the feelings. He says that focusing on the trauma and not the homosexuality or transgender issue will help the sin issue dissipate. Discuss this idea and its merit.

Title: The Prodigal Son & the Loving Father - Part 1

Speaker: David Kyle Foster

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+9f722ba

1. David says his family had a kind of stoic harshness that he misinterpreted as evidence that he was not loved or valued - a belief that drove him to multiple suicide attempts. Discuss how a lack of affectionate love affects one’s sense of value and worth.

2. David says that when he took off his clothes his bully’s attitude changed from scorn to delight. What did

you do in order to get people to notice and/or value you?

3. David says that he “defensively detached” from his angry father, but in doing so detached himself from the very source of masculine identity formation. In what ways did you detach from those significant to you? How did your decision affect the choices you made in your adult life?

4. Envy is a form of idolatry. It opens one’s self up to demonic infestation. What have you envied or idolized? How has this envy affected your life and relationships? What do you think you need to do to rid yourself of this form of idolatry?

5. During the “knife” incident at college, David’s belief that no one cared about him mushroomed. His attempt to force people to see his pain backfired when no one noticed. In that moment he felt completely abandoned and alone. Describe how abandonment has altered your life. What did you do to kill off the pain of the resulting sense of rejection, worthlessness and aloneness?

6. God says that He will never leave us nor abandon us.

Where was He when David so desperately needed Him?

Title: Sexual Brokenness - Part 2

Speaker: David Kyle Foster

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+4a832ee

1. David refers to the older men who had sex with him as “father figures.” What are your thoughts about this? What does this say about the need for a father and the depths people will go to gain a sense of having one?

2. David lived in two worlds with two personas - as a male prostitute, but also as a film actor who naturally wanted to be accepted as a professional on its own merit. How do you think people reconcile two different worlds within themselves?

3. “I was living to find the love and adulation I could not find as a child.” This profound statement by David described the interior motivation for his pursuit of fame in Hollywood. Discuss the different ways you have sought to find love?

4. David turns to a guru to find peace. But in a quest to find truth he travels to Israel where in the Garden of Gethsemene Jesus speaks to his heart - “Who proved His love for you?” In that moment, the scales fell from his spiritual eyes and everything became clear: Jesus’ sacrifice on the Cross was the quintessential proof of love. What brought you to the Cross?

5. Shortly thereafter, David poured out his frustration to God over the forthcoming task of finding freedom from deeply entrenched habits of sin. In a stroke of genius, the pastor asked: “Why don’t you let Jesus do this for you?” How might that work?

6. David says that when he focused on the person of Christ rather than on the enormity of his sin, his desires and behaviors began to change. He still struggled with many temptations but they had miraculously lost their power to dominate and control. Discuss this difference and its implications for living a Christ-empowered life.

7. John 3:16 tells us that God loves human beings in spite of their sin. That means you! God wants to set everyone free. What keeps you from this freedom and what difference would it make to be free? Pray together

and accept His love and forgiveness, and thank Him for loving you just as you are.

Title: Freedom of Forgiveness

Speaker: Richard Marks, PhD

Video URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmpQqjfc8eM

1. Why do you think people continue to hold offenses against others?

2. Dr. Marks defines forgiveness as a choice one makes to give up his/her right for vengeance, retribution and negative thoughts toward an offender. Discuss forgiveness as a decision rather than a feeling. What would be different if forgiveness was a feeling rather than a choice?

3. Forgiveness is not forgetting. It does not take away memory. How can a person continue to forgive when painful memories of the other's actions continue to assault one's mind?

4. Forgiveness does not restore trust or heal emotions. Why do you think this is so? How does forgiveness make possible the restoration of trust?

5. Unforgiveness prevents us from experiencing the fruits of the Spirit. Discuss how forgiveness frees our hearts to experience peace, love, self-control, etc. (Galatians 5:22-23)

6. How many stones do you carry in your heart? What keeps you holding onto those stones even though you now recognize that they are destructive to your life physically, emotionally, and spiritually?

7. Pray with one another for healing and the ability to forgive.

Title: Breaking Sexual Bondage - Part 1

Speaker: Dr. Neil Anderson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+f9b1ab9

1. What presuppositions are buried in much of secular psychology that sometimes conflict with a biblical worldview and model for healing?

2. Dr. Anderson states that “God meets us where we’re at!” Where were you in relation to worldly lifestyles and bondage when Christ rescued you?

3. Dr. Anderson suggests that we simply “take God at His Word and see what happens!” Is it really that simple? What does God do when someone approaches Him in that way? Might that be a good approach to evangelism?

4. What has kept you from “taking God at His Word” in the past?

5. According to Neil Anderson, there is only one step to freedom in Christ. In all its facets, describe that step.

6. The “early church” baptismal proclamation (“I renounce Satan and all his works”) has been lost to the modern church for the most part, which Neil sees as a metaphor for our present-day failure to recognize sanctification as a spiritual battle. Has the Church fallen prey to a secular, therapeutic mindset (which can offer

sobriety but not transformation)?

7. Where do you see what Neil calls false guidance, (-e.g., occult concepts, beliefs and practices), on the scale of contributors to bondage and addiction? How and when should it be dealt with in ministry to someone who is ensnared by a bondage?

8. Dr. Anderson believes that after cleansing from false guidance should come ministry to self-deception, bitterness, unforgiveness and the iniquities of prior generations. Discuss the process recommended by Dr. Anderson and any changes you have decided to make in order to conform to it.

9. Where were you when God met you to bring you out of your sexual struggles? What was it like to have God find you?

10. Sexual struggles must be seen in light of spiritual warfare. How do you relate to this deeper understanding of sexual sin?

11. Dr. Anderson states: “It’s really not what you do but who you are that counts.” What does he mean by that?

12. Dr. Anderson states: “People don’t live according to what they profess. They live according to what they believe.” Give examples from your life, your world, and the Bible.

13. Have you ever been the only Christian in a worldly situation? Did you bow to peer pressure by compromising or by hiding your faith or did you risk rejection by being a light in a dark world?

14. In noting that the average man thinks about sex at least every seven minutes, Dr. Anderson pointed out that we are engaged in a battle for the mind. Discuss.

15. The Bible says to think on what is true, pure, right and lovely and to put that into practice. Can someone really do that successfully in our sex-saturated culture? What was Dr. Anderson’s answer to that question?

16. Discuss Dr. Anderson’s illustration of “bopping down corks in the ocean”. What alternative did he recommend and how does that match the biblical prescription for living a holy life?

17. How does biblical faith differ from mere intellectual

assent? Give illustrations.

18. Ask God to tell you who you are. Write it down and be amazed.

19. Ask God to show you what you truly believe. Write it down and respond accordingly.

20. How has peer pressure played a role in your addiction or sexual struggles?

21. Is there such a thing as positive peer pressure? If so, where can you find this to help in your walk with God?

22. Discuss this amazing claim made by Dr. Anderson: “Upon entering the Kingdom of God, you are a new creation, with the mind of Christ, now able to renew your mind”. If true, why do so many believers seem unable to see the fruit of these facts?

23. Even as a new creation in Christ, old sinful memories and thought patterns remain. On the surface, this seems contradictory. Explain how both can be true at the same time and describe how we get deceived in this area.

24. Discuss Dr. Anderson's illustration of the young lady who found victory through receiving the peace of Christ. Does it stir up any stories of your own?

25. As usual, it all starts with repentance, according to Dr. Anderson, because refusal to repent blocks the core path to healing and restoration - intimacy with God. Why does sin block intimacy with God? What is it about an intimate heart-union with God that brings healing?

26. What has kept you from realizing a renewed mind?

27. What role does guilt and shame play in blocking the manifestation of a renewed mind?

28. Read some good books on pursuing intimacy with God, like Bridal Intercession by Gary Wiens, Into Abbas Arms by Sandra Wilson, Experiencing the Father's Embrace by Jack Frost, Passion for Jesus by Mike Bickle, The Sacred Romance by John Eldridge, or The Pursuit of God by A.W. Tozer.

29. What has prevented you from true repentance in the past and how would living in intimacy with God encourage such repentance?

Title: Breaking Sexual Bondage - Part 2

Speaker: Dr. Neil Anderson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+cfbcb1e

1. Do you believe in your heart, (not just your head), that you are seated in the heavenlies with Christ? Discuss.

2. Do you tend to let your feelings dictate reality to you? How can that be changed?

3. Dr. Anderson says that most people are ignorant of their spiritual heritage in Christ -i.e., they don't know who they are in Christ? Are you one of them? If so, what will it take to change that?

4. A related problem is that even when told, many people refuse to believe the facts as God states them and choose instead to live according to their feelings. Why are we such slaves to our feelings in modern culture? Why won't we just believe God?

5. Write out how you let your “feelings” control your decision-making?

6. List at least three areas where you make your decisions based upon sound thinking and not your emotions?

7. Why do you think you find it harder to make rational decisions around sexual sin and easier in the above scenarios?

8. A third problem is that people often fail to truly repent and so are unable to receive God’s solution to their problem. Is this blindness, a death wish, stupidity, hatred of God, love of the world, all of the above?

9. According to Dr. Neil Anderson, who or what is the bondage breaker? Explain.

10. Discuss the ramifications of Dr. Anderson’s statement: “Connecting people to the source of life itself is the answer.”

11. According to Dr. Anderson, belief comes first and experience follows, but most people are trying to do it

the other way around. In general, what is the usual outcome of such decision-making?

12. Dr. Anderson notes that the power that everyone is seeking is actually found in relationship (intimacy) with Christ. Why don't we believe this or why doesn't that satisfy us?

13. Dr. Anderson says that religious systems, like Islam, try to force obedience through fear of punishment (law). Do some forms of Christianity try to do the same thing? Why won't that ever work?

14. With true Christianity, we get out from under the law by God writing it on our hearts and providing the strength to be obedient through the power of the Holy Spirit. Has this been your experience? If not, according to Dr. Anderson, what may be the problem?

15. What was the "Galatian heresy", according to Neil Anderson? Discuss how that same heresy operates today, even in sectors of the professing church.

16. Neil says: "Both salvation and sanctification are by faith." What does that mean? If true, the solution to our

powerlessness and ongoing bondage to sin may be found in changing erroneous assumptions and beliefs, or it may be found in realizing that we have never truly “believed” (in the biblical sense), and deciding to do so for the first time. Discuss the possibilities for your own life.

17. Ask God to show you the ways and the areas in your life where you have not allowed Him to be Lord - areas where you insist on taking God’s role as your own. Are there any similarities between the areas? Can you see a solution through this revelation?

18. Describe experiences where you found yourself in a performance-based Christian system. What was that like for you?

19. A relationship-based Christian system - one that brings people into an intimate relationship with the Father - is far better than a rational one. How could such a relational theology help you in recovery?

20. How do false beliefs and other spiritual strongholds prevent us from moving from a rational system to an intimate relationship with God?

21. Jesus prepared the disciples for Pentecost in Luke 9 (the Twelve) and Luke 10 (the Seventy-Two). According to Dr. Anderson, the Twelve didn't get it but the Seventy-Two did. Discuss their experiences and how they apply to our lives today.

22. Dr. Anderson notes that since sin is the main barrier between God and man, belief, repentance, and forgiveness are required for freedom and transformation to occur. Discuss this recipe for being transformed.

23. If facilitating this reconciliation between man and God is our calling as ministers of the Church, how can we best bring the two together? Is it really better to have them pray to God, as Neil suggests, than for us to pray for them?

24. If someone asks God to reveal to him/her the areas in their life that need to be addressed, will God actually give them specific revelation? If not, why not? If so, what are some of the ways He might use to reveal the answers that they seek? Share some of your own experiences in this regard.

25. Some people need to hear God tell them He loves

them directly in their own spirit before they will ever believe it. Is that a good thing? Discuss.

26. What areas in your life, other than your sexual struggles, need to be addressed in order to see a more complete transformation into the image of our Lord?

27. Do the above areas have any relationship to your sexual struggles? Why or why not?

28. What keeps you from sensing and believing in God's love for you? What would you need to change in order to make that happen?

Title: Finding Freedom in Christ - Part 1

Speaker: Dr. Neil Anderson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+0db9d50

1. Early in the video, Dr. Anderson shares the prevalence of sexual issues in the culture and the increase in sexual websites, etc. How does the readiness and the

availability of sexual products lead to greater sexual struggles in life? How does it affect the church?

2. God made sex wonderful but sin broke the original divine plan? How has sin changed the divine plan? Why do you think, even in a sinful way, sex is such a strong draw?

3. Strongholds are irrational thoughts or lies we believe that are in the mind. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 talks about mental strongholds that keep us from the knowledge of God. We develop these strongholds through our family history, experience and culture. What strongholds have you developed? What lies have held you back from growing and maturing?

4. Traumatic experiences burn into our mind unhealthy ways of thinking and believing. Sexual things have profound effects on our brains and our emotions. What traumatic experiences have affected your life? Often, these experiences keep us in bondage to our past. However, Scripture says we are new creations in Christ? How does being new in Christ help us in finding freedom from bondage to strongholds?

5. When we submit to God and resist the devil we are able to win the battle of the mind. What role does God's Word have in helping us fight this battle? How does God's Word empower us to fight? How does God's word direct us in fighting the battle?

6. Read Ephesians 6. Pray today for the armor of God and put it on.

7. Write out how you let your "feelings" control your decision-making. What is the usual outcome of such decision-making?

8. Describe experiences where you found yourself in a performance-based Christian system. What was that like for you?

9. How could a relationship-based Christian system - one that brings people into an intimate relationship with the Father - help in recovery?

10. What additional areas in your life other than your sexual struggles also need to be addressed? Do they have any relationship to your sexual struggles? Why or why not?

11. What keeps you from hearing and sensing God's love for you? What would you need to change in order to make that happen?

12. Discuss the merits of aiming for perfection. How would achieving perfection prevent you from developing yourself into an emotionally and spiritually mature person?

13. Practically, what/who do you love more than Jesus? How do those things merit more love than Jesus? What would have to change about these people/things in order for you to love Jesus more? What would have to change about you?

Title: Finding Freedom in Christ - Part 2

Speaker: Dr. Neil Anderson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+6f9dde8

1. Dr. Anderson says that we can't fix the past. However, God set us free from the past. What is this distinction and how is it helpful to win the battles we fight?

2. Sin. Confess. Repent. Dr. Anderson states this sequence is most important. Why is this sequence important and what difference does it make over the “sin and confess only” model?

3. Dr. Foster talks about warfare in the mind and the need to renew/reprogram our minds. Read Romans 12:1-2 and Romans 7:24-25. What does this tell us about our mind, our need for God’s Word and the need to challenge old thoughts with the new thoughts found in Scripture?

4. Dr. Anderson indicates that understanding “who we are in Christ” is essential to finding freedom from our sinful strongholds. It is our identity. Our identity is not our sin. We are sons and daughters of Father God. How does this identity empower us to overcome sexual strongholds and find freedom?

5. Thank Christ Jesus for your new identity as a son or daughter of God. Thank Him for being your Father God and that you are not your sin (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). Praise Him for your new identity.

6. Where were you when God revealed Himself to you?

What was it like to have God find you?

7. Sexual struggles must be seen in light of spiritual warfare. How can you relate to this deeper understanding of sexual sin?

8. What has kept you from “taking God at His word” in the past?

9. What would you need to do differently to encourage you to take this step of faith?

10. List five things that you have “professed” about yourself and five things you “believe” about yourself? Are these different? Why or why not?

11. What role has peer pressure played in your addiction or other sexual struggles?

12. Is there such a thing as positive peer pressure? If so, where can you find this to help in your recovery?

13. What has kept you from a renewed mind?

14. What role does guilt and shame play in preventing a renewed mind?

15. What has prevented you from true repentance in the past and how would living in intimacy with God encourage such repentance?

Title: Freedom from Sexual Brokenness

Speaker: Dr. Neil Anderson

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+11a2054

1. Neil says that almost all of the homosexuals that he has come across have been abused or subjected to some form of overbearing authoritarianism or systemic family dysfunction. Why might those influences lead to homosexual neurosis in some people?

2. Many homosexuals grow up in religious environments where hatred and condemnation of homosexuals is all they hear. How do you think that makes them feel about God and themselves and how might those feelings contribute to other problems with sexual sin?

3. Dr. Anderson says that homosexuality is a lie and a deception. He claims that there is no such thing as a homosexual - only those who are tempted homosexuality. Unpack that line of thinking.

4. Neil says that homosexuality is not just a “body thing”, a spiritual problem, or a problem with the DNA, but that you’ve got to look at the whole. He says that it’s a battle for the mind and that submitting to God and resisting the devil is a core part of finding freedom. How does one resist the devil?

5. Neil asks, “Can a Christian live a righteous life?” The first step in that direction is repentance and believing who you are in Christ. You’re not an alcoholic, you’re not a bum, or a homosexual - you’re a child of God. How does discovering and believing in your true identity help you find freedom from sexual sin and brokenness?

6. Read and discuss the following scriptures: Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 15-20; 7:1-6; 1 Peter 2:11. What are the ramifications of such teachings and how might they apply to you?

7. What is the difference between what Dr. Anderson

calls a “discipleship counselor” and a trained therapist? Discuss the pros and cons of both.

8. The Bible tells us that the weapons we fight with have divine power to demolish strongholds. Accordingly, we must take every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). How does that work? Has it worked in your life? If not, what do you think was missing?

9. How do demonic powers play into a bondage, sexual or not?

10. Dr. Anderson says that forgiveness is the most Christ-like thing that you can ever do. Why?

11. Neil says that you will never find freedom by just getting rid of the problem (-e.g., a wrong identity, a poor self-image, depression, anger, bitterness, frustration). Neither will you find freedom by getting rid of the lie. You’ve got to choose the truth. Discuss.

12. Neil says that we’re not transformed by the renewing of our behavior but by the renewing of our mind. Therefore, reckoning ourselves dead to sin is by faith,

not by works. The Bible says that the old man is dead. Our mistake is to spend our time trying to put him to death. We fail because he's already dead. We don't put our fleshly nature to death by controlling our behavior or by having some sort of experience. Instead, we do what is already true and reckon ourselves dead to sin by faith. In other words, it is true - therefore I believe it. Discuss this teaching.

Title: Theology of the Body - Part 1

Speaker: Christopher West

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+75989d9

1. Christopher says that the male-female union is a reflection of the Trinity. What are your thoughts about this and what are the implications of this union for both our spiritual and relational development?

2. The prophet Hosea was instructed by God to marry a prostitute as a sign of God's desire to love, forgive and marry His adulterous wife, Israel. Discuss this divine form of "unconditional" love. Does it apply to the

Church?

3. Christopher teaches that the incarnation of Christ in Mary's womb provides theological understanding for the idea that God wants to create His divine life in all of us. What keeps us from allowing this to happen?

4. The marriage of Adam and Eve in Genesis points us to the marriage of Christ and the Church (Ephesians 5:32). When this spiritual marriage is consummated in heaven, believers will no longer need to be given in marriage (Matthew 22:30). How can we begin to live this "divine marriage" today as a prefigurement of that eternal marriage?

5. The union of a man and woman is meant to be an icon - something that points us to the heavenly relationship between Christ and the Church. When we begin to worship sex, we replace God for a lesser god. How do you think this affects society, marriage, and sexual sin issues in general?

6. In the beginning Adam and Eve were naked and not ashamed. This indicates that they both saw their bodies as a revelation of the mystery of God – they saw the

body as a call to Holy Communion. Discuss the difference it would make in our struggles with sexual sin if we operated with this understanding.

7. How does salvation through Jesus Christ inaugurate this “marriage” and enable us to live the divine life today?

Title: Theology of the Body - Part 2

Speaker: Christopher West

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+85ead2d

1. Referring to the Bridegroom (Christ) and the Bride (His Church), West says that only the human body is capable of making visible spiritual and divine things. Discuss.

2. West teaches that since believers of both sexes constitute the Bride, only when we open ourselves to receive God’s love (1st John 4:10) can the fruit of that love be conceived. (See also John 15:9; 13:34). How does this teaching inform us about human sexuality and

its practice?

3. Christopher teaches that as fallen creatures we do not have the capacity to do what Jesus is asking us to do. Only after having come to terms with that, can we get down on our knees and open ourselves up to receive the gift of divine love into our hearts. What has been your experience of trying to live in sexual purity by your own efforts and/or without the knowledge of God's divine love for you?

4. Christopher says that sexual purity is not a matter of the repression of sexual desire. It is a matter of the redemption of our humanity - body and soul (Romans 8:23). And within this redemption of our bodies is the redemption of sexuality itself. Do you agree? Explain.

5. West points out that sexual repression looks more holy than sexual indulgence, which is why many believers live with deep-seated sexual problems. The biblical remedy can only be the redemption of sexuality through faith in God's love. How has this difference between sexual repression and sexual indulgence wreaked havoc in your life?

6. West says that lust is a twisting of what God created in the beginning to be true, good and beautiful. He also says that godly sexual desire is the power to love in the image of God. Before the Fall Adam and Eve were naked and without shame (Genesis 2:25). After the Fall, however, sexual desire became inverted, twisted and self-seeking. Christ's death and resurrection made possible a return to the innocence of the Garden. The redemption of sexuality then becomes a Passover from lust to love (Ephesians 5:25). Discuss this idea as well as Wests' prescription that we ask God to untwist in us what sin has twisted so that we can experience sexual desire as He created it to be - the desire to love in His image.

7. Christopher points out that Satan knows that the body is meant to communicate the love and image of God as well as to reflect the eternal marriage of Christ and the Church. That is why he attacks it so vehemently. He is trying to mock God and mar the glory of His image in us. Discuss.

8. St. Augustine wrote: "God's law was given so that grace might be sought". In Romans 7:7, the Apostle Paul wrote: "I would not have known what sin was if it weren't for God's law". West adds, "Grace was given so

that God's law might be fulfilled". How does God's law, in concert with grace, work righteousness?

9. Why was Jesus so compassionate with sexual sinners (John 8:1-11; Luke 7:36-39ff; Matthew 21:31-32)? What can we learn from His approach as we try to bear witness to a hedonistic culture?

10. West says that the problem is not the hunger hidden beneath the sin, but our choice to go to the dumpster to satisfy that hunger rather than to the person of God Himself. What are some examples of other hidden hungers that crouch behind sinful choices?

Godly Sex & Marriage

Title: Real Life Sex

Speakers: Tim & Anne Evans

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+6655e27

1. How did you learn about sex and sexuality? What message(s) about sex did you get from what you learned?

2. The Evans make reference to the connection between communication and healthy sexuality. What role do you think communication has in the development of healthy sexuality?

3. According to Tim and Anne, an ungodly “soul tie” or “bond” can be caused by factors other than sexual intercourse. It can be created through emotional bonds as well. What are your thoughts about breaking unhealthy “soul ties” so that the marital bond is free to

develop?

4. Tim talks about emotional “fig leaves” – those things that we do emotionally to deal with our feelings of shame and guilt. Identify two emotional “fig leaves” in your life and how these help or hinder your growth in Christ.

5. What are your thoughts about the idea that masturbation is a form of self-centered “Me-sex”?

6. The Evans talk about the use of visualization and fantasy during masturbation. Would you consider this lust? What does Jesus have to say about lust in the heart?

7. “Refocusing” is about imprinting one’s covenant mate in the brain. What spiritual implications do you think this might have in one’s life?

8. Mankind was created for intimacy with God. Discuss how healthy sexuality enables a close, intimate relationship with God.

Title: Understanding the Opposite Sex - Part 1

Speaker: Shaunti Feldhahn

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1bf900b

1. Shaunti says that the men in her study wanted to feel respected more than feeling loved. What are your thoughts about this?

2. Her research revealed that men struggle with a deep sense of vulnerability and insecurity, (-i.e., "Do I measure up"), which leads to a strong need to feel respected. What do you think or feel about the fact that deep down, men struggle with insecurity and fears?

3. "Men cannot NOT look." The research shows that the male brain is drawn to look at women, particularly those dressed sexually. Shaunti says this is a biological reality. Her research also shows that many of these men feel guilty about this visual nature of the male brain. Our highly sexualized culture has only made the problem worse. What can women do to not personalize this biological reality and to support their husband in this struggle?

4. Discuss the provocative nature of women's dress today and how it "feeds" this struggle in men.

5. Shaunti reveals that sexual unfaithfulness in men leads them to doubt the faithfulness of their sexual partner. Though sex outside of marriage is not God's plan, what do you think it does to one's ability to build healthy relationships?

6. Shaunti found that boys and girls ages 15-21 also develop a lack of trust in their partner when they engaged in premarital sexual activity. This lack of trust then spills over into other relationships. How do you think this insight reinforces the biblical directive that sexuality rightfully expressed needs to be in the context of marriage?

7. Shaunti reveals that both men and women need to "take captive" thoughts born from their own insecurities. How do you think taking responsibility for one's own thoughts would benefit the relationship?

Title: Understanding the Opposite Sex - Part 2

Speaker: Shaunti Feldhahn

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+1504043

1. Men think that if they are not having sex on a regular basis that they must no longer be desirable. But the research reveals that only 4% of women actually think that way. What can men and women do to correct their self-perceptions of desirability?

2. Shaunti defines two types of desire: assertive (tied to testosterone) and receptive (tied to estrogen). The former pursues and initiates and the latter responds. What can couples do differently to take into account these biological differences so that they can share a healthy intimate sexual relationship in marriage?

3. 80% of the women in the survey question if their husbands would choose them all over again. A woman really needs to know that she is accepted and loved, while men need to feel respected. If a husband will just reassure her of his love and devotion she will feel secure. Discuss your thoughts about this and different ways that misunderstandings can be prevented.

4. A man can prevent a wife's insecurity by pursuing her

as a person - not just sexually. Identify different things a man could do to help his wife believe she would be his choice all over again.

5. About 88% of the women in the study report that they find it difficult to compartmentalize thoughts as men are able to do. How does this difference in the ability to "just not think about it" disrupt intimacy and understanding?

6. Men find that playing together with their wife is romantic and helps them emotionally bond with her. Research shows that joint activities are a way for couples to build intimacy. What do you do as a couple that is playful, relaxing, and builds intimacy?

7. Shaunti talks about good will as important in a healthy and strong marriage. She reveals that couples must begin to see their spouse's behavior in light of good will rather than ill will. What keeps couples from seeing each other's choices as having been made out of good will and what can we do to change that attitude within ourselves?

Title: Purity

Speaker: Jonathan Welton

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+7eeb6b6

1. Jonathan talks about the sometimes futility of having an accountability person to go to for help. Discuss the pros and cons of having an accountability group or person in attempting to heal from one's struggle with sexual sin.

2. Jonathan asked God to tell him the truth about how He saw him. This is important because it is the truth that sets us free. What lies about yourself and others have you believed? How did these lies hold you in bondage to your sin struggles?

3. Jonathan indicates that self-control - one of the fruits of the Spirit - gives us power. Discuss how self-management, regulation and obedience leads to empowerment?

4. Pain looks to pleasure for comfort and yet many of us do not seek the Spirit, the Comforter, for the comfort and solace that we need. Discuss the idea of pain seeking

pleasure and how this kept you in bondage to sin over the years.

5. Jonathan went through his memories to identify the lies hidden within each memory and the actual truths that he could have lived out. Living in our lies, we are pushed around in life without a sense of self-control. But the Holy Spirit can return that self-control to us. Discuss the difference living in self-control can make in your heart, life and relationships.

6. Pray and ask Abba Father to reveal the lies you still hold on to. Then renounce them, and ask Him to replace them with truth.

Title: Gods Design for Sex

Speaker: Angus Hunter

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+51eb18f

1. Gus reveals that men and women come together to reflect the image of God. What are your thoughts about this? How does marriage reflect the image of God?

2. Eve coming out of Adam indicates that she existed IN Adam before she was taken OUT of Adam. Thus, Adam is a symbol of God the Creator, and Eve a symbol of mankind - the Created. Discuss this and how it relates to marital love as well as human sexuality. Remember, these are symbols.

3. Sexual sin is wrong because in its creation sex was connected to selfless, life-giving love. Sexual sin is not selfless and in many cases not life-giving (-e.g., abortion). That is why marital love is where the divine order of sex is meant to exist. How does sexual sin fall sort of this ideal? How do abortion and other sexual perversions represent a turning from this divine order of sex and marital love?

4. Receiving salvation through Christ brings about healing and a restoration of divine love. He intends to heal all our broken places. Have you accepted Christ as Savior? If not, pray now and accept Him. For those of you who have lived “in Christ” for some time now, what difference has it made (2 Corinthians 5:17)?

5. Gus says that it is a delusion to think that we are the source for all our life’s needs. In that frame of mind, we

do not sense our need for “The Source” (God). However, real men and women recognize this need and live from it. How does living in His love and in humility allow us to become what God intended us to be? How does pride prevent this? Confess any pride that has kept you from living in His fullness and move to humility today.

Title: Sex According to God

Speaker: Dr. Dan Scott

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+f8365c3

1. Dan’s research reveals that most pastors fall into sexual sin because they have not accepted themselves as sexual beings. They spend their lives trying to be holy without dealing with their humanity. Many churches communicate this idea: spirit good, body bad. This split leads to sexual struggles and often feeds legalism. How has this dichotomy affected the Church sexually and how has this teaching affected you?

2. Sex creates a bond at spiritual levels, not just physical ones. Scripture states that spiritual energy is transferred

during sexual experiences. This sexual energy can be good or bad. Discuss the ramifications of this transference of energy on one's self and society.

3. Sex can bless or harm another. So God designed a marital covenant for sex to be properly expressed. Dan says that "covenant" is the highest expression of love and otherness. Its bond protects sexual expression and preserves it for its highest good, both spiritually and relationally. Discuss this concept and how we can live out our sexuality with the same value God places on it. How would single adults and married adults be affected by this teaching?

4. Dan indicates the sexual revolution minimized the spiritual aspects of sexuality and increased the physical. What are the ramifications on society for this sexual revolution? How has this affected the church?

5. Dan says that all humans crave intimacy, yet fear it as well. How does God's love and acceptance assuage our fears of intimacy (1 John 4:17-18)? How does sexual sin foment the lie - that intimacy has taken place?

Title: Purity Before Marriage

Speakers: Aimee & Issac, Charlotte and Kenneth

Video URL: https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media/mi/+p6umumw

1. Kenneth & Isaac learned about sex from their peers and from pornography. What is wrong with that? What ramifications does that bring to the practice of sex in our culture?

2. The message that Isaac received about sex from his parents was that sex was a good thing. Yet his response to that message was to watch pornography, beginning at the age of ten. How do you thread that needle as a parent?

3. Isaac says that frequently absent parents and free access to pornography on the Internet made sex a major issue in his life. What can a parent do when their attempts to guard the purity of their children doesn't comport with their busy lives?

4. Aimee admits that she developed sexual lust just from watching TV. How prevalent is it today for a woman to look at lustful images?

5. Aimee admits that she and her husband could not get free from sexual lust and that they still struggle with it. Yet she claims that the Lord has changed them and continues to change them. What does that process look like, especially in the life of a married couple?

6. Isaac says that one of the best ways to get to know someone is to see how they interact with their own family members. Do you agree? If so, how does that work?

7. Isaac says that they didn't do any touching - not even holding hands - until they were engaged. What do you think about that? Is that the example left us in Scripture?

8. What mistakes did you make in dating and marriage and what would you do differently today? In that regard, how important is premarital counseling for the success of a marriage?

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About the Authors

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Dr. Richard Marks has earned a Ph.D. in Psychology and Counseling as well as a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Counseling, a Master of Arts in Religious Education, and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. Dr. Marks is also a Licensed Professional Counselor and an ordained minister. He is the Executive Director of ConnectUs 4 Life, Inc., a healthy relationship ministry based in Jacksonville, Florida focused on helping people overcome relationship problems, chemical and sex addictions, abuse and spiritual struggles. Dr. Marks has taught in the area and worked in the area of sex addictions since his graduate school training in 1987.

He is a Clinical Fellow of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy as well as a professional member of the American Counseling Association, International Association of Marriage and Family Counseling, and the Christian Association of Psychological Studies. Dr. Marks has spoken at conferences such as the IAMFC, the AACC, the ACA, the

annual Addiction Summit in Florida. Dr. Rick is a veteran of the United States Navy.

Dr. Marks is the author of *Relationships for Life*. He is also the founder and author of *RelateWell*, a biblically sound and clinically astute and research based healthy relationship skills curriculum. Dr. Rick conducts relationship retreats, seminar, workshops for faith based organizations as well as emotionally healthy leadership trainings for businesses and organizations.

https://www.MasteringLife.org

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Dr. David Kyle Foster (M-Div - Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; D-Min - Trinity School for Ministry) is the founder and executive director of Mastering Life Ministries and the author of the Sexual Healing Reference Edition: A Biblical Guide to Finding Freedom from Every Major Area of Sexual Sin and Brokenness, a revised and expanded version of the original book

published two decades earlier. He has also written Love Hunger: A Harrowing Journey from Sexual Addiction to True Fulfillment, and Transformed Into His Image: Hidden Steps on the Journey to Christ-likeness.

David has also written a series of free eBooks on a variety of topics - available at https://www.masteringlife.org/resources/the-divine-marriage. His newest book on death and dying - *Going Gentle Into That Good Night: Facing the Final Curtain* - can be found at https://www.masteringlife.org/images/files/Going_Gentle-FINAL_9.pdf.

Dr. Foster has served as adjunct professor at Asbury Theological Seminary, The Bible Institute of Hawaii, Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, Logos Christian College & Graduate School and the Wagner Leadership Institute.

His articles have appeared in numerous journals and magazines, and he has been a guest on myriad television and radio programs at home and abroad - witnessing to the power of God to set anyone free from anything. He has spoken on five continents for ministries such as Youth With A Mission and Ellel Ministries.

Dr. Foster founded Mastering Life Ministries in 1987, and for 10 years produced and/or directed the award-winning "Pure Passion" TV program (https://subsplash.com/purepassion/media). He is also the producer and/or director of the award-winning documentaries, "Such Were Some of You", "How Do You Like Me Now? When a Child, Parent, Spouse or Sibling Says They're Gay" and "Tranzformed: Finding Peace with Your God-Given Gender."

Dr. Foster began a new weekly podcast in March of 2019 on the Charisma Podcast Network, entitled "Pure Passion".

Making his home in the Nashville, TN area, Dr. Foster loves hanging out with Jesus during the Autumn in a quiet mountain cabin and being in the company of people who can't stop talking about how much they love God.